



Follow the GAZETTE on Facebook!

HAPPY HOLIDAYS ISSUE

Diana Corro 2020

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

VIDEOS

BREED COLUMNS

Toy Group

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| Cavalier King Charles Spaniels | Havanese | Pekingese |
| Chihuahuas | Italian Greyhounds | Pomeranians |
| Chinese Cresteds | Miniature Pinschers | Shih Tzu |
| | Papillons | Yorkshire Terriers |

Non-Sporting Group

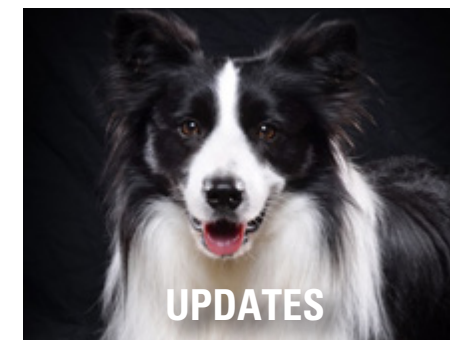
- | | | |
|------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Bichons Frises | Dalmatians | Shiba Inu |
| Boston Terriers | French Bulldogs | Tibetan Spaniels |
| Chinese Shar-Pei | Keeshonden | Tibetan Terriers |
| Chow Chows | Lhasa Apsos | |

Herding Group

- | | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Australian Cattle Dogs | Canaan Dogs | Old English Sheepdogs |
| Bearded Collies | Cardigan Welsh Corgis | Pembroke Welsh Corgis |
| Belgian Malinois | Collies | Pulik |
| Belgian Sheepdogs | Finnish Lapphunds | |
| Briards | Norwegian Buhunds | |

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 |
|---|--|--|



UPDATES



SLIDESHOW SEASON'S GREETINGS

SECRETARY'S PAGES

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



DOGGEREL



2020: THE YEAR IN PICTURES

How to download or print the AKC GAZETTE: At the upper left of this screen, press either the download or print icon, and print the pages you need once the PDF of the issue downloads and is opened.

PURINA
PRO PLAN

“THERE’S
**ONLY ONE
FOOD I TRUST
TO FUEL MY SUPERSTARS**”

— AMBER McCUNE

Amber McCune is a national champion trainer and handler from Amherst, New Hampshire. Over the past decade, Amber has won dozens of titles across agility, conformation and obedience. And there’s only one food she trusts to fuel her superstars — Purina® Pro Plan® Sport Performance 30/20.

This owner received compensation and coupons for Purina® Pro Plan®.

SEE WHY CHAMPIONS TRUST PRO PLAN AT
PURINAPROCLUB.COM/EXPERTS



**FUEL THE CHAMPION
IN YOUR DOG**



OPTIMIZES OXYGEN
METABOLISM
(VO₂ MAX) FOR
INCREASED ENDURANCE



30% PROTEIN AND
20% FAT TO FUEL
METABOLIC NEEDS AND
MAINTAIN LEAN MUSCLE



OMEGA-6
FATTY ACIDS AND
VITAMIN A TO
NOURISH SKIN & COAT

Incredible is Coming.

See the TV Listings at www.incrediblechallenge.com

PURINA
PRO PLAN

Purina trademarks are owned by Société des Produits Nestlé S.A.

PURINA

Your Pet, Our Passion.®

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Good News and Gratitude

We have reached the culmination of a year that has been filled with unexpected difficulties, but there is much to be grateful for.

This month we crowned our second National Trick Dog Champion, a Border Collie named Amos, owned by Debbi Snyder. This virtual event was open to Elite Performers, AKC's highest level of trick dogs. More than 100 competitors from 29 states and Canada submitted videos of performances judged by three AKC-approved CGC evaluators.

The two semifinalists in the competition were Sandi Taylor and her Borzoi, Evie, and Tracy Dulock and her Golden Retriever, Gryffindor. (See more AKC Trick Dog coverage on pages 8 and 23). We are very proud of our finalists and semifinalists and cannot wait to see who wins next year!

Now, we also have incredibly exciting news to share with you. The AKC National

Championship presented by Royal Canin will air on ABC through 2023. The 2020 edition will air January 17, 2021, at 2 P.M. EST. The American Kennel Club has entered into a three-year agreement with ESPN, the leader in sports television, for unique, high-energy dog-sport programming.

Building on the success from our previous collaborations, *ESPN Dog Day* and *ESPN Puppy Day*, the AKC will produce championships and competitions for the network. Each show will give viewers an insight into the passionate, fun, and intensely competitive world of dog sports and provides opportunities to introduce new audiences to everything the AKC has to offer dog owners. The shows include:

- AKC Fastest Dogs USA
- AKC National Championship
- AKC Agility Premier Cup
- AKC National Agility Championship
- North America Diving Dog Premier Cup
- NAFA Flyball CanAm Classic

Each program will have two re-airs on ESPN television channels as well as re-airs on



the Nat Geo WILD Channel. The agreement also grants ESPN access to the AKC's extensive library of dog programming for potential future programming. (For more on this story, see page 6.)

This is truly a thrilling endeavor and we are certain that this new opportunity will enhance and grow our sports and the mission of the AKC.

As we close out this year, I thank the breeders, exhibitors, judges, Delegates, and AKC Board and staff who have shown the highest level of resilience this year. We could not have

imagined how challenging this year has been, but your support and commitment to our dogs and our performance, companion, and conformation sports have pushed us forward and sustained us.

Wishing you a happy and healthy new year.

Dennis

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dennis B. Sprung".

Dennis B. Sprung
President and CEO

managing editor BUD BOCCONE
senior editor ARLISS PADDOCK

senior designer KATE MCCROARY
publications director RUSSELL BIANCA
senior graphic designer CHRIS ESPIRITU
staff photographer DAVID WOO

FREE
AKC GAZETTE
SUBSCRIPTION

advertising & circulation administrator
VENUS RODRIGUEZ
vxr@akc.org
212-696-8260

advertising representatives
J.L. FARMAKIS, INC.
24 East Avenue
Box #1350
New Canaan, CT 068402
203-834-8832
bill@jlfarmakis.com

Write to the editors gazette@akc.org

AKC GAZETTE (ISSN 1086-0940), December 2020, Volume 137, No.12, published monthly at 101 Park Ave., New York, NY 10178, USA, by The American Kennel Club, Inc. Copyright The American Kennel Club, Inc., 2020. No portion of this magazine may be reprinted without permission of the publisher. AKC is a registered trademark of The American Kennel Club, Inc.

Heroes for the Holidays

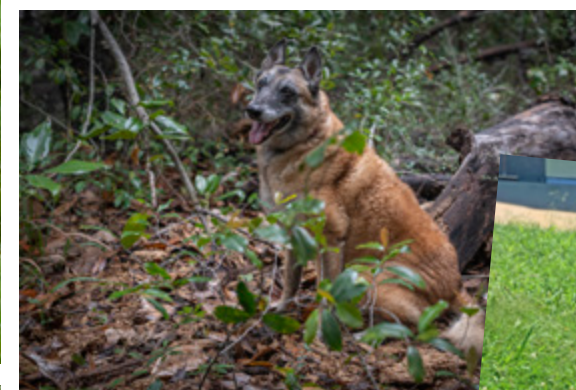
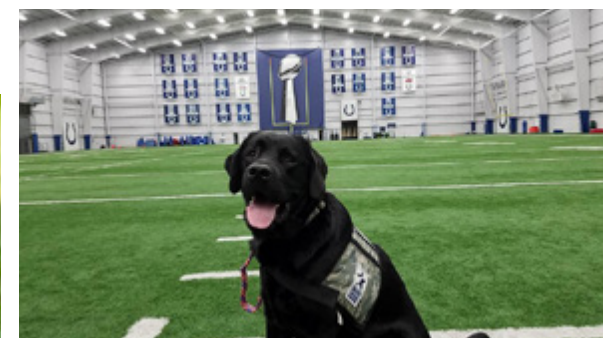
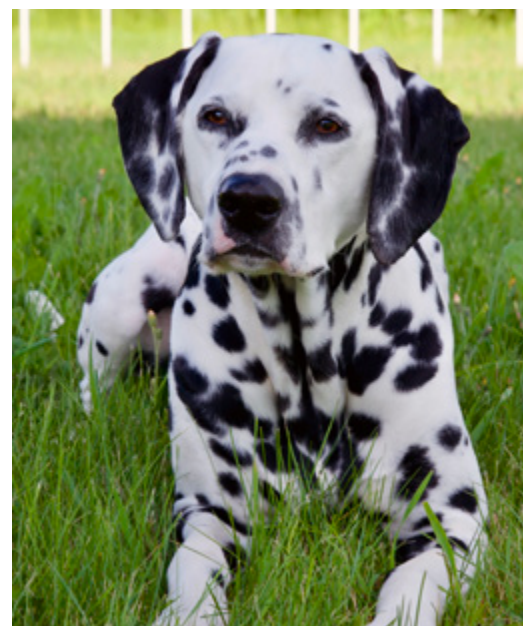
A highlight of the AKC National Championship each year is the presentation of the *Awards for Canine Excellence*, guaranteed to bring a standing ovation, and not a few tears, from the assembled spectators. This year, of course, there were no spectators at the Orange County Convention Center. The ACE-winning dogs and handlers would have to accept their honors remotely.

From this disappointing turn of events came something wonderful: the AKC.tv series AKC Heroes. Five episodes, one for each award category, tell the stories behind the 2020 ACE honorees and finalists, with commentary by AKC Executive Secretary Gina DiNardo and a certain witty and debonair GAZETTE editor who will remain nameless but oh so shameless.

AKC.tv produced something that all of us in the AKC orbit can take pride in. This celebration of what our fabulous purebreds can achieve when in the hands of committed and loving owners will give you that warm-all-over holiday feeling. Click the link below, watch the series, and give these winners their well-deserved standing ovation, if only in your dreams.

All of us at AKC Publications wish you peace, prosperity, and puppies in the new year.—B.B.

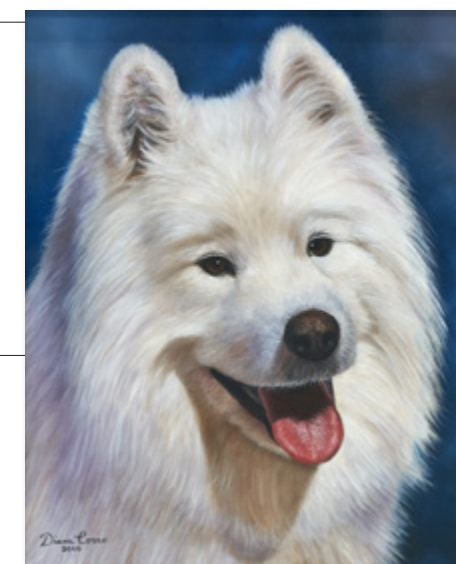
[AKC Heroes](#)



Meet the 2020 ACE winners on AKC.tv



On Our Cover
Samoyed Nicholi II,
by Diana Corro



AKC MUSEUM OF THE DOG: ACE DOGS: COURTESY OWNERS

Join the AKC Breeder Rewards Program

Earn up to **\$10** per puppy when new puppy owners:

1. Register with the AKC
2. Activate their 30-day pet insurance policy
3. Download the TailTrax app

Learn more & enroll

www.akcpetinsurance.com/akc-breeder-rewards-program



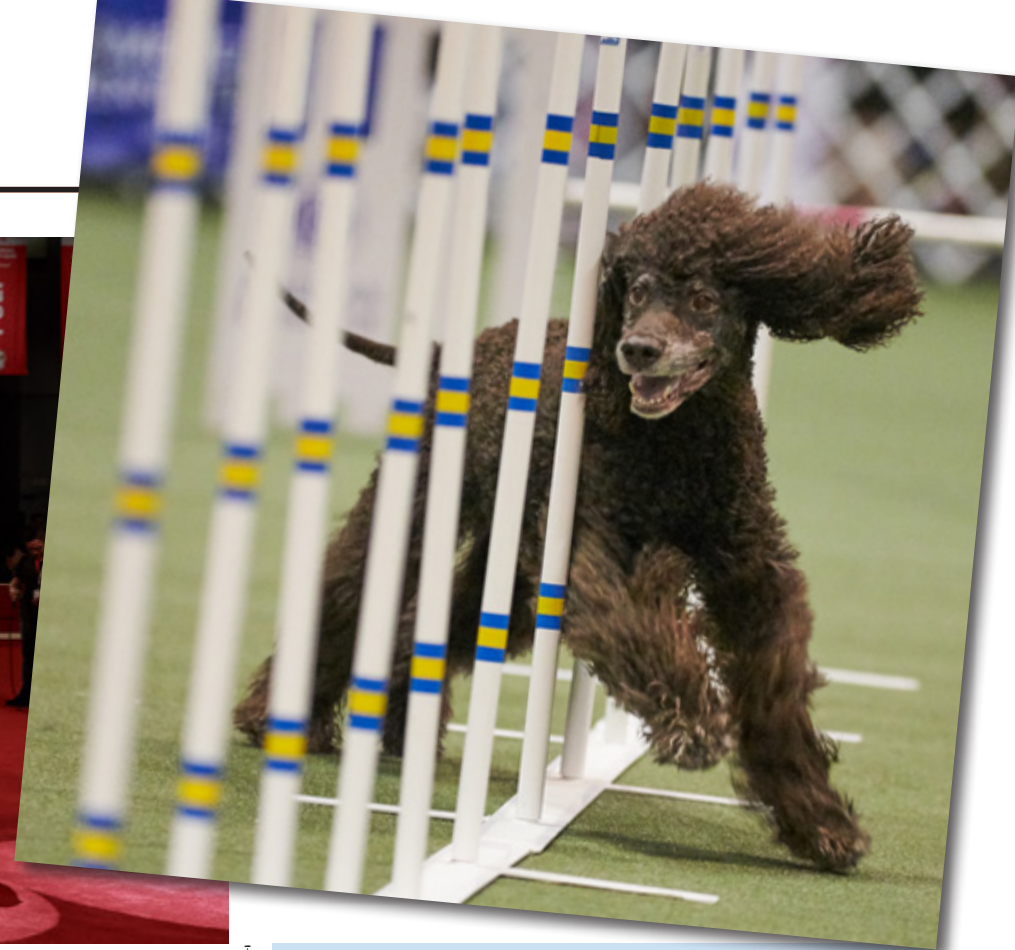
**PET
INSURANCE**

Underwritten by Independence American Insurance Co.

This program is offered through PetPartners, Inc. and is not sponsored or endorsed by the American Kennel Club (AKC). Eligibility restrictions apply. See program terms and conditions for details [and limitations]. Program questions and incentive disputes should be directed to AKC Pet Insurance/PetPartners at 866-725-2747.

Insurance is underwritten and issued by Independence American Insurance Company, rated A- (Excellent) by AM Best Company, with offices at 485 Madison Ave, NY, NY 10022 and in WA, by American Pet Insurance Company, 6100 4th Ave. S., Seattle, WA 981 OS. Insurance plans are offered and administered by PetPartners, Inc., a licensed agency. "American Kennel Club," "AKC" and the AKC logo are trademarks of The American Kennel Club, Inc.; used under license by PetPartners. "AKC Pet Insurance" is the name used by PetPartners to offer and administer insurance plans and is neither an American Kennel Club business nor an insurance company. American Kennel Club does not offer, administer, solicit, market or sell any insurance plans. For complete details refer to www.akcpetinsurance.com/sample-policies. The 30-day coverage must be activated in most states. Eligibility restrictions apply. For more information, visit www.akcpetinsurance.com/certificate or call 866-725-2747.

AKC, ESPN Ink Multiyear Broadcast Deal



AKC National Championship to air on ABC through 2023

NEW YORK—The AKC and ESPN, America’s leading sports network, have announced a three-year programming agreement. The deal brings the AKC National Championship to ABC for the next three years and includes digital rights for selected events to stream live on the ESPN app.

“We are thrilled to expand on our relationship with the leader in sports television,” AKC President/CEO Dennis B. Sprung says.

“AKC sports demonstrate the very best in canine athleticism and the strength of the human-canine bond. It is exciting to introduce new audiences to these action-packed events and showcase the stellar dogs that compete. We cannot think of a better place to do so

than ESPN.”

Building on the success from their collaborations *ESPN Dog Day* and *ESPN Puppy Day*, the AKC will produce championships and competitions for ESPN. Each show will give audiences an insight into the fun and intensely competitive world of dog sports. The slate includes the AKC National Championship, AKC Agility Premier Cup, AKC National Agility Championship, North America Diving Dog Premier Cup, AKC Flyball National Championship, and AKC Fastest Dog USA.

Each program will have two repeats on ESPN cable channels and on the Nat Geo WILD channel. The agreement also grants

ESPN access to the AKC’s video library for future programming.

“People just love their dogs, and our viewers responded very well to our previous AKC telecasts,” ESPN Executive Vice President Burke Magnus says.

“We’re very pleased to be able to bring them more in the years to come, showcasing the beauty and athleticism of dogs and the great teamwork these events require, and making ESPN the home of dog action sports. I know my black Labs Luna and Stella will be joining me to watch.”

A three-hour presentation of the 2020 AKC National Championship will air on Sunday, January 17, 2021, at 2 P.M. EST.

25 Years of CHF

The AKC Canine Health Foundation will present “A Salute to 25 Years, Featuring Dr. Anita Oberbauer” on January 9, 2021. The keynote address of this virtual event, celebrating the 25th anniversary of the CHF’s founding, will be “Considerations of Genetic Testing and Our Dogs’ Health” by Dr. Anita Oberbauer, followed by a Q&A session.

Also on the program: President’s Award and Distinguished Research Partners Award recipients, 2020 CHF highlights, and a look back at the foundation’s first 25 years.

[Tickets](#)

UPDATES



American Kennel Clips

VIRTUAL OBEDIENCE PROGRAM

The popularity of video dog sports was a silver lining in this most challenging year. The AKC's latest video-based event is a pilot program: [AKC Virtual Obedience Test](#), consisting of two beginning-level classes, Virtual Beginner Novice and Virtual Novice. The new classes go into effect on March 1, 2021.

The test allows owners to submit video of their obedience exercises for evaluation. The exercises in virtual obedience will be slightly different than in-person tests, and so the titles earned will be designated Beginner Novice Virtual (BNV) and Companion Dog Virtual (CDV).

This is a standalone program with no crossover to the regular obedience titles.

The pilot program will be reviewed in late 2021, with an eye toward possible expansion.

Contact: [AKC Obedience](#)



COMPANION EVENT RULES CHANGES

As we reported during the summer, some companion-event regulations were temporarily suspended or modified to provide clubs and exhibitors flexibility due to COVID-19.

At the November 23 meeting of the AKC Board of Directors, these changes to

AKC Obedience, Rally, and Tracking regulations, originally set to expire at the end of 2020, were made permanent.

The changes affect regulations governing closing dates, eligibility restrictions for exhibitors and dogs, eligibility restrictions during emergency judge changes, and modifying the obedience figure-eight exercise.

[Read more](#)

AKC GAZETTE COLLECTION



Feel the joy of saving money.

American Kennel Club members could save on GEICO auto insurance with a special discount!

Each time a member completes a new auto insurance quote, GEICO gives back to the organization.

GEICO
#MemberDiscount

[geico.com/disc/akc](https://www.geico.com/disc/akc)
1-800-368-2734

GET A QUOTE

AKC Supports

New Service-Dog Rule



The AKC has expressed approval of the U.S. Department of Transportation’s final rule on airline travel with service dogs. The DOT announced the new rule on December 3, effective January, 2021.

The rule addresses

the poorly trained service dogs and emotional-support animals seen increasingly in airports and on planes, putting the safety of crew and passengers (especially those with properly trained service dogs) at risk.

Among the changes to federal rules for air

transport of service dogs, the new rule aligns the definition of “service dog” in the [Air Carrier Access Act](#) with the Americans with Disabilities Act. “Psychiatric service dogs” will be treated as individually trained service dogs, and “emotional-support

animals” will be treated as pets.

“We are very pleased by the DOT’s strong statement that recognizes the value of properly trained service dogs and the tasks they perform to mitigate an individual’s disability,” AKC President/CEO Dennis Sprung says.

“We also appreciate the clarification that service dogs come in many shapes and sizes, and that no properly trained working service dog should be denied a flight because of its breed or appearance.”

The AKC has concerns that passengers who want to fly with their pet may claim falsely that a pet is a service animal, thereby bringing a pet into aircraft cabins or avoiding the payment of pet fees. The AKC

strongly opposes the practice.

The AKC has been particularly aware of the negative impression made by poorly trained dogs and misrepresentation of pets as service dogs. It makes life difficult for those with disabilities who rely on well-trained service dogs.

To help find a solution to this problem, the AKC became a founding partner in the American Service Dog Access Coalition, a charitable organization working across industries to establish recognized, voluntary standards-certification for service dogs.

Link

Follow the local, state, and national politics of dogs at [AKC Government Relations](#).

“Hairy Pawter” 2020 Trick Dog Champ

Border Collie Holther’s Shepherd with a Message, CD, BN, RA, CGCA, CGCU, TKE (Amos), handled by Debbi Snyder, of Lakeland, Florida, was the winner of the 2020 AKC Trick Dog Competition.



Amos, Wizard of Dogwarts

The virtual event was open to Elite Performers, the highest level of [AKC Trick Dog](#). More than 100 competitors from 29 states and Canada submitted video performances judged by three [CGC](#) evaluators. The winning routine was “Hairy Pawter and The Sorcerer’s Bone,” starring Amos in the title role.

“Amos performed his routine with joy and required minimal cues from his handler,” AKC Family Dog Director Mary Burch says. “A dog who works consistently and eagerly is ultimately what dog training is all about.”

Semifinalists were Borzoi Avalon Perlova Mhd Sweet Fire of Love, CGC, TKE (Evie), handled by Sandi Taylor, of Tulsa, Oklahoma, and last year’s winner, Golden Retriever Watermark’s Brave at Heart, RN, TD, OA, AXJ, XF, CA, DS, CGC, TKE (Gryffindor), handled by Tracy Dulock, of Robinson, Texas.

“It was a pleasure to judge these remarkable dogs and handlers,” judge and CGC evaluator Geralynn Cada-Ragan says. “In the end, we looked at not only tricks but the whole presentation, including the team effort and whether or not there was a great team bond.”

GOLDEN RETRIEVER: AKC GAZETTE COLLECTION; BORDER COLLIE: COURTESY OWNER

Verse for a Certain Dog

BY DOROTHY PARKER

*Such glorious faith
as fills your
limpid eyes,
Dear little friend
of mine, I never
knew.*

*All-innocent are you,
and yet all-wise.*

*(For Heaven's sake, stop
worrying that shoe!)*

*You look about, and all you
see is fair;*

*This mighty globe was made
for you alone.*

*Of all the thunderous ages, you're
the heir.*

*(Get off the pillow with that dirty
bone!)*

*A skeptic world you face with
steady gaze;*

*High in young pride you
hold your noble head,*

*Gayly you meet the
rush of roaring days.*

*(Must you eat puppy
biscuit on the bed?)*

*Lancelike your
courage, gleaming*

swift and strong,

*Yours the white
rapture of a winged*

*soul, "Whatever is, is good"—your
Yours is a spirit like a gracious creed.*

*Mayday song. You wear your joy of living
(God help you, if you break like a crown.*

*the goldfish bowl!) Love lights your simplest act,
your every deed.*

*(Drop it, I tell you—put that
kitten down!)*

*You are God's kindest gift of
all—a friend.*

*Your shining loyalty
unflecked by doubt,*

*You ask but leave to follow to
the end.*

*(Couldn't you wait until I
took you out?)*

*Yorkshire Terrier, by Maud Earl: "This
mighty globe was made for you alone."*

Just Like the Ones We Used to Know

Progress has its price. The ability to instantly message a loved one in Timbuktu is among the wonders of the digital age. The downside: With each passing year, we receive fewer paper holiday cards in the mail. Don't get us wrong. We gratefully accept tidings of comfort and joy in any form they take. There is, though, something wonderfully warm and intimate about handwritten greetings from someone who cares enough to buy a stamp.

In olden days, the GAZETTE offices this time of year would be festooned with cards from readers, advertisers, and show kennels. We are indebted to the nameless long-ago staffer who set aside a handful of these seasonal heirlooms in a file labeled CHRISTMAS CARDS. Here are a few of our favorites.



FEATURE

Congratulations. If you are reading this, you survived the strangest year of your life.

2020: the Year in Pictures

Best of Winners



The sight of judges and handlers in face masks was just one of the changes that took some getting used to during our sport's most challenging year since World War II. (Kathleen Riley photo)

FEATURE



January



January The GAZETTE kicked off 2020 with [Oleg Bochov's photo coverage](#) of the AKC National Championship presented by Royal Canin. Judge Dorothy Collier selected Pekingese GCh.S Pequest Wasabi as her Best in Show.





February David Woo shot the return of [AKC Meet the Breeds](#) to the Javits Center in New York. After months of pandemic, the sight of so many people packed together without distancing or masks might make one cringe. But such was life in pre-COVID America.



February



March The March GAZETTE carried our most ambitious coverage ever of the Westminster KC show, with [14 pages of photos](#) taken by David Woo, who also visited the [Progressive KC toy-breed show](#) at the Hotel Pennsylvania. It was a particularly festive dog-show season in New York. It seemed as though the sport, and the city, were poised for a great year.

March

DAVID WOO AKC

April



April By the time our April issue was published mid-month, the pandemic was a fact of life. It had been a hundred years since the world had faced a health crisis of this magnitude and, in COVID-19's early stages, there was much about the virus we didn't understand. "Can my dog catch or spread the virus?" was among the popular queries fielded by the AKC at this time. Glen of Imaal Terriers Winston and Griffin helped spread the "Keep calm" message among the fancy.

In April we presented [Lynda Beam](#)'s photo coverage of the [Cool Cluster](#), our last pre-COVID set of "Ringside" candid.

GLEN OF IMAAL TERRIERS; COURTESY KELLI WHITFIELD;
IRISH SETTER; COURTESY LYNDA BEAM

May



May Our feature story "[Vet School, Quarantine Style](#)," by Hannah Loonsk, was a daily journal of how a veterinary student and her Irish Water Spaniels were keeping it real in the virtual world of pandemic.

In the same issue, Jo Lynne York's "[The Promise Keepers](#)" reminded us that the cosmic connection between dogs, humans, and flocks, forged at the dawn of civilization, will be part of life long after COVID-19 is history.

PHOTOS COURTESY AUTHORS

FEATURE

June In lockdown, fanciers devised imaginative ways to keep the dog-show community together. Our June Icelandic Sheepdog column covered the “[Corona-tine Virtual International Icelandic Sheepdog Show](#).” The breed-rescue benefit event required video exhibitors to show their dogs while wearing pajamas, the “official uniform of the global quarantine.”

June



FEATURE

July The pandemic summer was punctuated with occasional feel-good stories from the dog world. Our July issue welcomed a new breed, the [Belgian Laekenois](#), to the AKC Stud Book.



FEATURE

August Our “[Summer Art Issue](#)” provided a respite from reports of event cancellations and other COVID-related disappointments in dogdom. This shot of Picasso’s monumental 50-foot steel sculpture, an abstract depiction of the artist’s Afghan Hound, was among dozens of fine-art pieces and illustrations featured in this well-received special issue.

August



FEATURE



September Virtual dog shows became a popular distraction this summer. In September, Daryl Martin (seen here with Pat Bullard, right) presented photos from the “[Great American Maltese Virtual Celebration](#).” Our veteran Maltese columnist looked for the pandemic’s silver lining. “I feel people are connecting more with others and learning more about their breeds,” Martin wrote. “Maybe the show world will be better, with more breeders than just exhibitors.”

Puli GCh.B Cordmaker Boys Will Be Boys was among the BIS winners in the [AKC Virtual Top Dog Challenge](#) series held in 2020. Elsewhere, the AKC’s roll-out of several virtual events in the companion-event realm was a big success, proving the old adage “Necessity is the mother of invention.”



September



October In 2020, we had the sad duty to report the passing of prominent fanciers, among them Maxine Beam (pictured), Milly Bryant, Roger Hartinger, Iris Love, Joe McGinnis, Ron Rella, A. Nelson Sills, and Matt Stander.

October

November Our Otterhound columnist Eibhlin Glennon was one of several breed columnists who wrote thoughtful pieces on Covid-19's impact on the dog world. In her November column, "[Puppies During a Pandemic](#)," Glennon wrote, "The advantage of having and raising puppies during a pandemic is the joy they bring at a time of insecurity, fear, and depression."

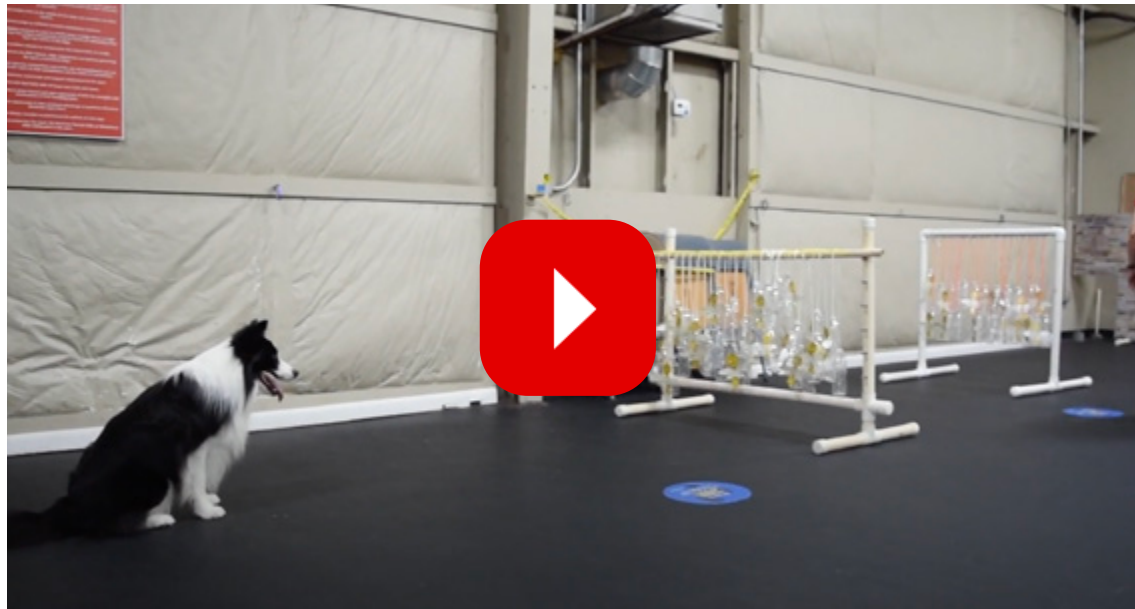


BEAM: AKC GAZETTE COLLECTION; OTTERTHOUNDS COURTESY EIBHLIN GLENNON

December

December As of this writing, our AKC colleagues are packing their bags for Orlando to staff the AKC National Championship presented by Royal Canin. In keeping with the times, it will be a stripped down affair, with no spectators, a smaller-than-usual entry, safety protocols, and few of the usual bells and whistles. But the show will go on. And in the long run, so will our sport. There's light at the end of tunnel. Keep the faith. We'll see you around the rings in 2021.





Trick Dog Winner: Amos

This month, we present winning routines in the 2020 AKC Trick Dog Competition. First up is Amos the Border Collie as “Hairy Pawter.”



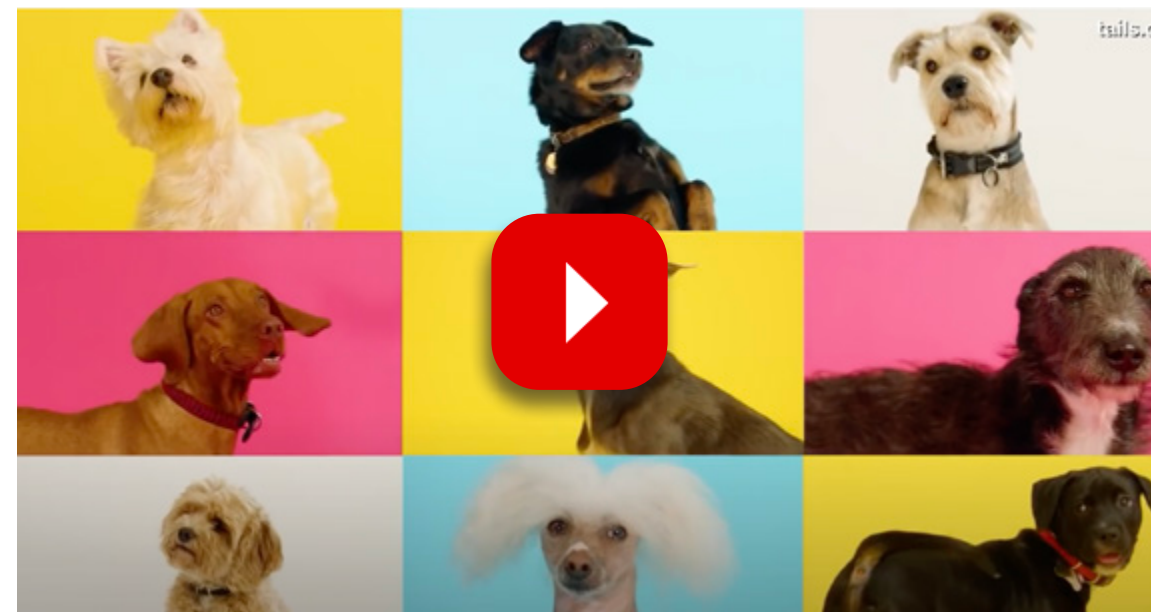
Trick Dog Finalist: Gryffindor

Gryff the Golden gives a spirited performance in “Indiana Bones: Raiders of the Lost Bark,” complete with a unique treatment of John Williams’s famous musical theme.



Trick Dog Finalist: Evie

Evie the Borzoi stars in another Harry Potter-themed routine. Kudos to Team Evie for the lavish production values!



Video Stocking Stuffer for Dogs Only: “Raise the Woof”

Written specifically for canine ears, this music video utilizes “scientific research into how dogs interact with sound.” Will your dog give it a paws-up or a liver-breath yawn?

Border Terriers are plain, unassuming little brown dogs. Ask any owner and they will tell you their dogs are often mistaken by those unfamiliar with the breed for other breeds, or assumed to be some sort of undefined but cute variety of mixed-breed. Borders are unimposing and small enough to work in close quarters. An area they excel in as a result of their size, temperament, and tractability is therapy-dog work. They can be found serving as therapy animals in hospitals, schools, and a variety of residential and outpatient settings.

A less common type of work where they shine is that of the victim witness-advocacy dog. In the Border Terrier breed standard, a compelling descriptor is “By nature he is good-tempered, affectionate, obedient, and easily trained.” These traits, coupled with



Canine advocates help victims cope with trauma in the courthouse and beyond.

By D'Arcy Downs-Vollbracht

The Comfort Connection

PHOTOS COURTESY OF AUTHOR EXCEPT WHERE NOTED. THIS PAGE: AKC.ORG



A good therapy dog will provide a lift to facility staff as well as to patients and victims.

an individual dog’s ability to connect with humans, are the makings of an ideal courtroom dog.

DOG ADVOCATES

Many state jurisdictions throughout the United States, along with the FBI, enlist the services of dog advocates. On December 20, 2019, the Senate passed the Courthouse Dogs Act, which ensures victims in federal criminal cases may have a trained comfort dog present during testimony.

When children or vulnerable adults testify and describe the trauma they endured, it is common for even the most prepared witness to shut down. With a dog on their lap, in a chair next to them, or on the floor beside them, the child or witness has the “task” of watching the dog, which helps take their mind off the magnitude of the proceedings and gives them something to look at other than the defendant.

While there are many different ways a dog can find itself in court, the now preferred term for the role is that of a “facility dog.” They have been called by numerous names—therapy dogs, therapeutic comfort dogs, and emotional support dogs—but it is a role that blurs the lines. Terms like “service dog,” “therapy dog,” and “emotional support dog” have legal significance and are often tied to specific individuals or tasks, and what dogs in the justice system do is a blended role involving skills from several areas and requires the dog work in varied environments.

A criminal case starts with an initial law-enforcement encounter and ends with the final resolution of the case. Throughout that process, victims and witnesses are interviewed and have the right to appear at any and all hearings and give input on release, plea agreements, or sentencing and participate in

FEATURE

the case. In some cases victims are subjected to physical examinations, which, despite the best efforts of medical providers, are scary, invasive, and humiliating. This is especially true for children.

The series of traumas a young child can suffer in a molestation or exploitation case as it winds its way through the system add up quickly. A victim/witness dog who is introduced to the child during the initial law-enforcement contact can be the one completely nonjudgmental, consistent presence in a case. If you have ever had to testify as a witness, you know it is much more stressful than it looks on TV.

DOG V. OWNER

During law school I interned at the county prosecutor's office and was assigned a desk next to the person who would develop the new victim witness-advocates office. Formalized victim's rights were relatively

In a New York hospital, Ticket comforts a patient in the way dogs know best.



new, and I was lucky to be able to work with someone devoted to that area of law. Though I pursued trial work for the defense after graduation, I still supported the victim's rights program.

As a result of that relationship, my Border Terriers went to work at the county prosecutor's victim advocacy office, while I trotted off to my defense practice. Due to the potential conflict of interest, my dogs were handled by certified victim witness advocates, and not by me. I represented the defendants; my dogs helped the victims. I never knew which cases they were working on, though I did receive a general report of their activities. This schedule required them to have extremely stable temperaments and the ability to work independently.

In one memorable case, I represented the defendant and my dog was the advocate for the child victim. I knew the child would have

an advocate dog, but never considered it would be my own dog. After the initial surprise, and quick ruling, I experienced the feeling of cross-examining a 6-year-old child in a particularly graphic sexual-molestation case as I watched my own dog remain solely focused on the child, oblivious to my presence. She was a partner to that child, and it worked: The child was able to engage and provide testimony.

In that case, my dog was effectively working against me, but it remains to this day one of my most memorable and rewarding courtroom and dog experiences.

BEYOND THE COURTROOM

Dogs who are partnered with trained human advocates work in shifts and are on call. Often they are dispatched to crime scenes where victims are present. This could be the scene of a homicide, fire, domestic dispute, or assault. Often there are children



Ticket awaits the call of duty on a courtroom bench.

present, and nothing soothes a terrified child like a good dog. My Border Terriers have been used to coax children out of rooms where a family member has died, leaving the young child alone—often for days—until help arrives.

One special-needs 4-year-old boy had been left with his grandfather while his parents worked out of state for a week. Usually the grandfather would have the child speak with his parents by phone each night, but occasionally due to spotty cell service a day or two would be missed. When four days went by, the parents contacted law enforcement for a welfare check just to make sure everything was all right.

When officers arrived, the smell of death was recognizable from the street. Knocking on doors and windows and not hearing any reply, they entered the home to find the boy curled up next to his grandfather who had been dead for at least three days. The boy was terrified, dehydrated, and

hungry and became distraught when officers tried to get him to let go of grandfather. They were strangers to him, and he knew he needed to stay with Grandpa. Bear in mind, the temperature on this day was 119 degrees—very hot, even for Arizona. The single-wide trailer didn't have air-conditioning, and there were a lot of people now inside trying to help.

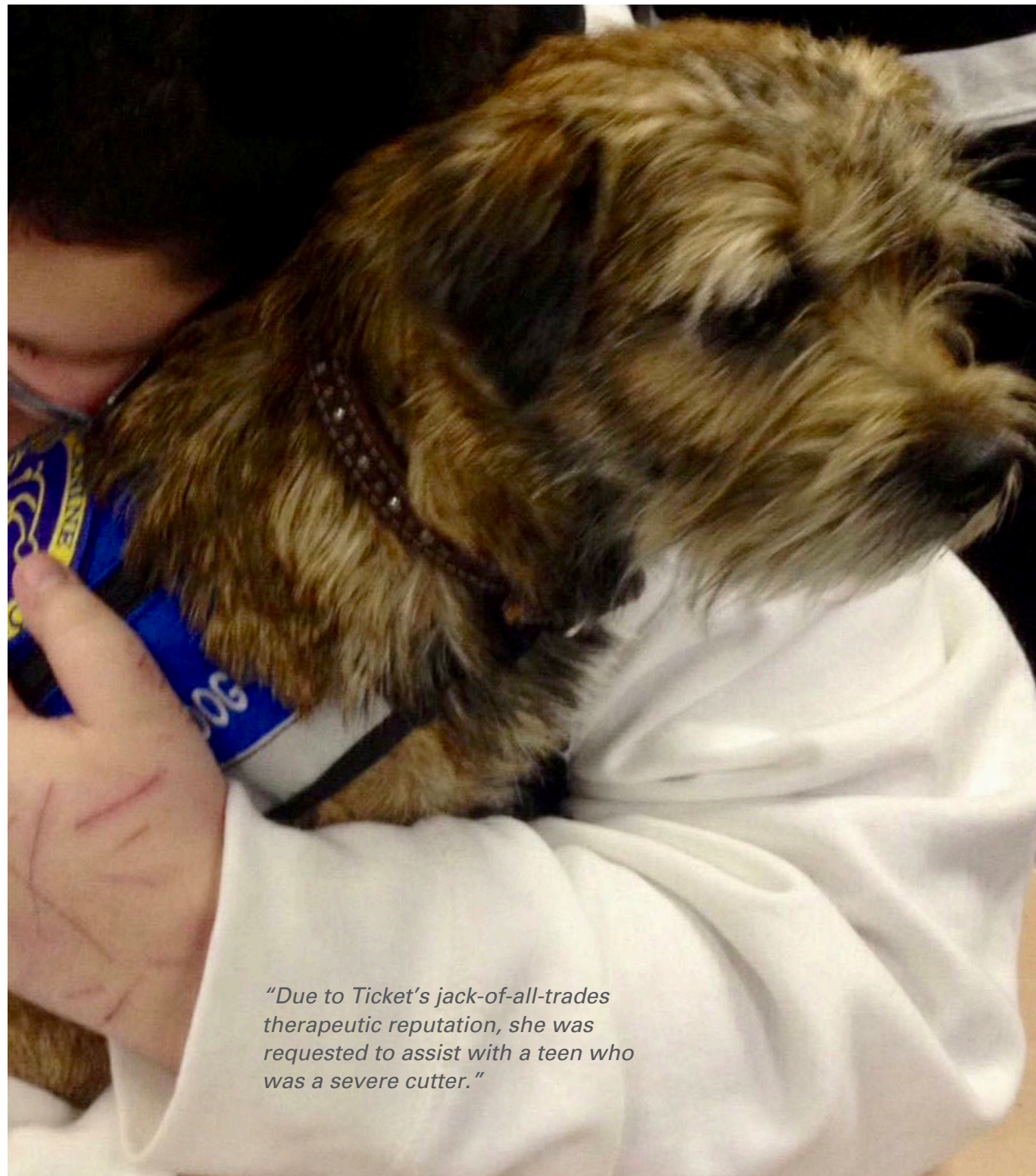
The victim witness advocate could barely breathe, but Nita, a 10-year-old Border Terrier, led the way. When asked, she hopped up on the bed and sat next to the boy. Eventually he began petting her, and the advocate asked him if he would help her hold the leash. He agreed and then asked what did Nita like to do and could he hold the leash alone. In holding the leash, he let go of Grandpa. When the advocate asked if he could help her take Nita outside to use the bathroom and get a drink of water, he nodded and told his grandpa he was going to walk

the dog now.

He walked out of the house with the leash wrapped tightly around his arm, and they walked on the hot gravel to a patch of dirt. The advocate gave him water, and he gave Nita water before he himself drank. He just stared at Nita, and eventually an officer and the advocate were able to get him to help get Nita to her special “seat” in the cool police car. Nita stayed with the boy for the next seven hours until his parents arrived at the child protective services office.

This wasn't dramatic, or even a crime, but it was certainly a traumatic experience for the child. The use of the dog provided a much better outcome than if he had been forcibly picked up and removed from his grandpa by a complete stranger.

Another case involved a 13-year-old girl who was repeatedly molested by her stepfather over the course of years. When she finally disclosed to a teacher what was



"Due to Ticket's jack-of-all-trades therapeutic reputation, she was requested to assist with a teen who was a severe cutter."

happening, she was pregnant by him. Her mother and siblings did not believe her, and the stepfather denied the allegations. As she told her story to law enforcement, a victim's advocate was present, with Ticket alongside. The girl was taken to the hospital for the first time in her short life, and it was for a sexual assault exam. For those unfamiliar with that process, a specially trained nurse examiner or physician performs a detailed examination, complete with photos and video to document findings. This was a girl who had never been to a doctor, even for a cold, and had been conditioned to never discuss her body. It was extremely difficult for her.

It was during this exam she learned she was pregnant. Dogs are not usually present in the room during the exam, or are at least not close enough to potentially contaminate hair samples. However, after repeated requests by the sobbing victim, the nurse

practitioner and a quick-thinking nurse wrapped Ticket in a sheet. Only her eyes and nose were exposed. In a carefully negotiated deal, the girl could hold the dog during the internal exam but had to be very still, and the dog had to not wiggle out of the blanket or move. That did the trick, and the exam was successfully completed.

During the next three years, the girl had Ticket with her at the birth of her child, the adoption of her child, and numerous hearings, and she had a weekly visit with her to take her for a walk around the courthouse complex, which was within walking distance of her school. Ticket would occasionally return from those walks with a damp neck and ears. It took me two years to realize she was wet with the tears of that incredibly brave young woman. A bond had formed between the two, victim and advocate, and they became friends, with Ticket as a nonjudgmental, supporting,

and comforting presence. The defendant was eventually sentenced, but the weekly walks continued until the young woman graduated and moved to the other side of the country.

Due to Ticket's jack-of-all-trades therapeutic reputation, she was requested to assist with a teen girl who was a severe cutter and nonverbal. The girl was in a locked-down juvenile facility, and all efforts by counselors to engage her in discussion had failed. She had drawn a dog during an art therapy session, so the professionals thought it would be worth a shot to see if she responded to a dog.

They called around and learned most therapy dogs work with a handler and not independently. This wouldn't be feasible in that facility, but finally they tried the victim-witness dog they had occasionally heard mentioned by advocates, victims, and law enforcement officers.

I drove Ticket to the facility, and we went through several

security checks. Finally we reached the last check, where I would remain. Without a second look, Ticket trotted off with the social worker and never looked back.

According to the program director, after hugging Ticket for a very long time, the girl seemed to have a calm descend over her. She wasn't jittery or as withdrawn. She relaxed enough to draw a picture for Ticket. And then she spoke. After months of silence, she said, "Thank you for coming to see me, Ticket."

From then on, the girl began slowly opening up to her counselors about the years of abuse and neglect she had suffered. She visited with Ticket in person two more times and then wrote to her until several months after she was finally placed in long-term foster care.

A PROFOUND IMPACT

Dogs who are capable of therapy work and who can work in different kinds of settings are worth their

weight in gold. Training is important, but the dog either has "it" or not when it comes to connecting with people in crisis. Most teams are composed of an owner and dog who both undergo training. Mine were independent from me in earlier situations only because of the conflict of interest posed by my work.

I now volunteer with a younger dog, Mynx, and often I am her teammate, as my area of practice is different and there usually isn't a conflict.

For any owner interested in participating with any of the justice programs or court programs involving dogs, please consider following through on it. Contact your local prosecutor's office or state victim-advocacy office and ask if they have a courtroom or victim witness dog program.

Be persistent, because not every office or jurisdiction has the program in place,

and you may have to make several calls in order to find the right contact. Seeing the profound impact your dog can have for a suffering human is something you will never forget.

Postscript: *Ticket now has a brain tumor, and every day we have with her is a gift. She did her last therapy visit about three weeks ago with a special-needs adult at a doctor's appointment. The woman was scared and needed an exam and procedure, and Ticket was a trouper. However, she is now at home and letting us take care of her. Her great-great-granddaughter, Mynx, is now starting to go out on visits and will follow in her footsteps.—D.D.-V.*

D'Arcy Downs-Vollbracht, of Bullhead City, Arizona, is a practicing defense attorney who raises Border Terriers and competes in conformation and performance events in addition to doing therapy work with her dogs.
Darcy@dvmlawfirm.com

From the **Courthouse Dog Act**

Either party in a criminal proceeding in a Federal court may apply for an order from the court to allow a certified facility dog, if available, to be present with a witness testifying before the court through in-person testimony; or testimony televised by 2-way, closed-circuit television.

A Federal court may enter an order authorizing an available certified facility dog to accompany a witness while testifying at a hearing if the court finds that—

- (1) the dog to be used qualifies as a certified facility dog;
- (2) the use of a certified facility dog will aid the witness in providing testimony; and
- (3) upon a showing by the party seeking an order, the certified facility dog is insured for liability protection.

Each certified facility dog authorized to accompany a witness shall be accompanied by a handler who is trained to manage the certified facility dog by an assistance dog organization; and a professional working in the legal system with knowledge about the legal and criminal justice processes.

The party seeking an order shall apply for such order not later than 14 days before the preliminary hearing, trial date, or other hearing to which the order is to apply.



"The use of a certified facility dog will aid the witness in providing testimony."

Big Bob's Christmas in July

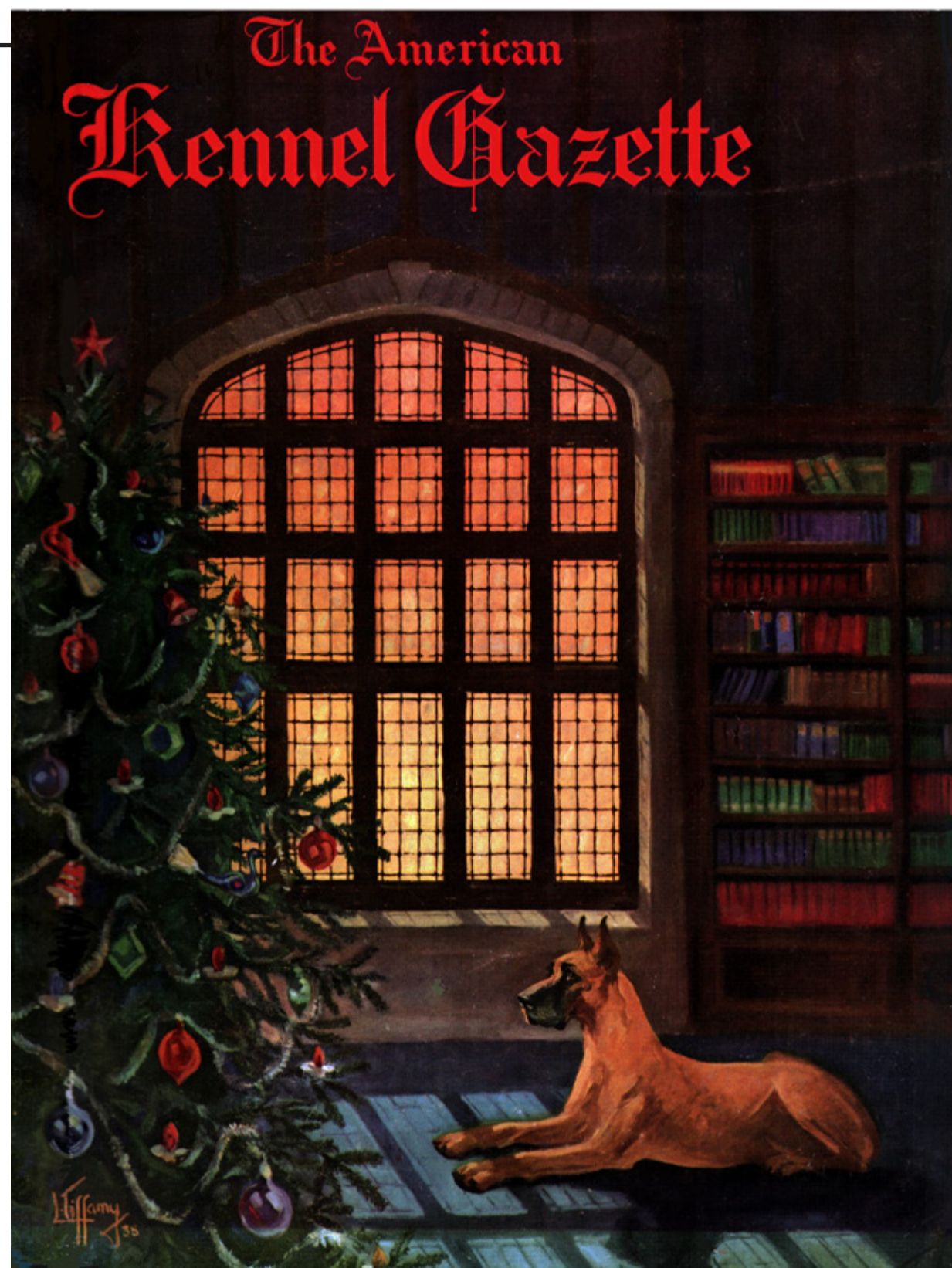
During the sweltering summer of 1938, GAZETTE editor Louis de Casanova was already planning the magazine's December issue. For the cover art, he imagined a dog in an English manor house looking up at a Christmas tree. He pitched the idea to artist Lillian Tiffany, of Durant, New York. Tiffany, one of the GAZETTE's go-to illustrators of the era, eagerly accepted the commission.

Tiffany was a stickler for realism and staged the scene in her own home. This included a live, fully decorated Christmas tree that was replaced halfway through the project after wilting

in the July heat.

The tree, however, was not her primary concern. Here's an excerpt from an interview with Tiffany from the December 1938 GAZETTE: "My first problem was a model. I decided on a Great Dane. There were two reasons for this. In the first place, I am passionately fond of that breed. Then, too, it seemed to me that a Great Dane would fit into the picture so nicely.

"Although I had two prize-winning dogs, neither was a Great Dane. Consequently, I had to go searching for one. My requirements were that he be a pure-bred with fine points—and a good model.



"Lady Luck was with me. Three miles down the road were some kennels kept by a friendly German. There I found just the animal I wanted. He was a good specimen, weighed 165 pounds, and stood 32 inches from the ground.

"However there was one drawback. The dog understood orders only in German, although he would respond to his name, Bob, in English. I decided to risk it, and am glad now that I did. . . .

"It wasn't long before I found out how to attract his attention and get the pose and expressions I wanted. I even learned some German words, and this helped out a lot. Any noise downstairs or outside the house would make him alert. Squirrels never failed in this respect."

AKC GAZETTE COLLECTION

Remembering Roger Hartinger

among the fanciers who passed from the sporting scene in 2020 was Roger Hartinger, who died in November at age 86. When reading tributes to the beloved all-breed judge, military veteran, former police officer, and proud son of Cincinnati, one is struck by how often the word *kindness* appears. In this season when our thoughts turn to warmth, joy, and generosity, we remember a man who embodied these words all year round.

Mr. Hartinger is survived by his partner in life and in the show ring, Paula Hartinger, their four children, and their grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

boccone



©BUD BOCCONE 2020



In this month's Papillon Club of America column, Roseann Fucillo asks, "Are non-show breeders ever considered reputable?"



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

TOY GROUP

- 33 Cavalier King Charles Spaniels
- 34 Chihuahuas
- 35 Chinese Cresteds
- 36 Havanese
- 37 Italian Greyhounds
- 38 Miniature Pinschers
- 39 Papillons
- 40 Pekingese
- 41 Pomeranians
- 42 Shih Tzu
- 43 Yorkshire Terriers

NON-SPORTING GROUP

- 44 Bichons Frises
- 45 Boston Terriers
- 46 Chinese Shar-Pei
- 47 Chow Chows
- 48 Dalmatians
- 49 French Bulldogs
- 50 Keeshonden
- 52 Lhasa Apsos
- 53 Shiba Inu
- 54 Tibetan Spaniels
- 55 Tibetan Terriers

HERDING GROUP

- 56 Australian Cattle Dogs
- 57 Bearded Collies
- 58 Belgian Malinois
- 59 Belgian Sheepdogs
- 60 Briards
- 61 Canaan Dogs
- 62 Cardigan Welsh Corgis
- 63 Collies
- 64 Finnish Lapphunds
- 65 Norwegian Buhunds
- 66 Old English Sheepdogs
- 67 Pembroke Welsh Corgis
- 68 Pulik

TOY GROUP

Cavalier King Charles Spaniels A MODERN BREED WITH AN ANCIENT HISTORY

What's in a name? Well, for the Cavalier King Charles Spaniel, there is a wealth of history in the name. So much of what we see in our modern Cavalier and its nomenclature revolves around history.

Today's Cavalier King Charles Spaniel is a descendant of the line of small toy spaniel dogs seen in so many of the royal paintings from the 16th, 17th, and 18th centuries. Many well-known paintings of Gainsborough, Stubbs, Van Dyke, and (later) Landseer depict small, spaniel-type dogs with flat or slightly rounded skulls, high-set ears, narrow muzzles, and almond eyes. Things were not always thus, however.

The Cavalier King Charles Spaniel is named for King Charles II of England, who was so enamored with these little dogs that he was seldom without several at his side or at his heels. Charles allowed these little spaniels to accompany him to Court and even to Parliament, where dogs were not permitted. Today there still exists a decree allowing the Cavalier King Charles Spaniel to attend Parliament.

King Charles II ruled Britain from May 1660 until February 1685. He was successor to his father Charles I, who was executed



*Cavalier King Charles Spaniel:
There still exists a decree
allowing the "royal spaniel"
to attend Parliament.*

on January 30, 1649; although Charles II was proclaimed King, he had to flee to Scotland while Oliver Cromwell ruled England. Charles II returned to England after Cromwell's death and re-established the House of Stuart. Along with him came his spaniels. These toy spaniels became the darling of the ladies of the court, becoming treasured pets, "comforter spaniels," and ultimately the "royal spaniel."

Time passes and kings and courts change, and so do styles. William and the Dutch court brought an interest in the Pug and Oriental breeds, and the classic spaniel lost favor. The King Charles Spaniel changed drastically in the late 17th century, when it was interbred with flat-nosed breeds. History suggests that spaniels were bred to Pugs and other "Oriental" breeds, producing a dog with a rounded skull, flatter face, undershot jaw, and large, round eyes. This little dog, known as the Charlie, is closer to the English Toy Spaniel we know today.

Elements of English society resisted this change in canines. The Dukes of Marlborough maintained a strain of the traditional spaniels in a red and white coat at the Blenheim Palace. Today the red and white Cavalier King Charles Spaniel is called the Blenheim in honor of John Churchill, the 1st Duke of Marlborough. Similarly the cherished red

COURTESY LYNDA BEAM

TOY GROUP

spot or “lozenge” seen on the head of some Blenheim Cavaliers is known as a Blenheim spot. The Blenheim spot is also known as the mark of the “duchess thumbprint,” based on the legend that Sarah Churchill, Duchess of Marlborough, while awaiting news of her husband’s safe return from the Battle of Blenheim, pressed the head of an expecting dam with her thumb, resulting in five puppies bearing the lucky mark after news that the battle had been won.

Over time and in its land of origin, the Cavalier seen in those old treasured paintings disappeared. It was an American, Roswell Eldridge, who is credited with saving or resurrecting the breed. In 1926, at the Crufts dog show he offered a prize of 25 pounds each for the dog and bitch of the Blenheim variety that most resembled the dogs of the reign of King Charles II. In those years this was no minor prize, and he arranged this for five years. The Crufts catalog described a dog “as shown in the pictures of King Charles II’s time, long face, no stop, flat skull, not inclined to be domed, and with a spot in the center of the skull.” It was not until 1928 when Ann’s Son, a dog owned by Miss Mostyn Walker, won the prize. Ann’s Son is always held up as the progenitor of the Cavalier King Charles breed. Unfortunately, Roswell Eldridge passed just one month before the 1928 Crufts show.

It took many generations of breeding to produce the present-day Cavalier King Charles Spaniel. In fact, it was not until 1945 that The Kennel Club felt there were sufficient numbers to permit entrance as a recognized breed. The Cavalier remained in the AKC Miscellaneous Class for 40 years, being accepted as the 140th recognized breed in 1996. But that is a story for another day.

—Dr. John V. Ioia, MD, Ph.D.,

bonefixr@gmail.com

[American Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Club](#)

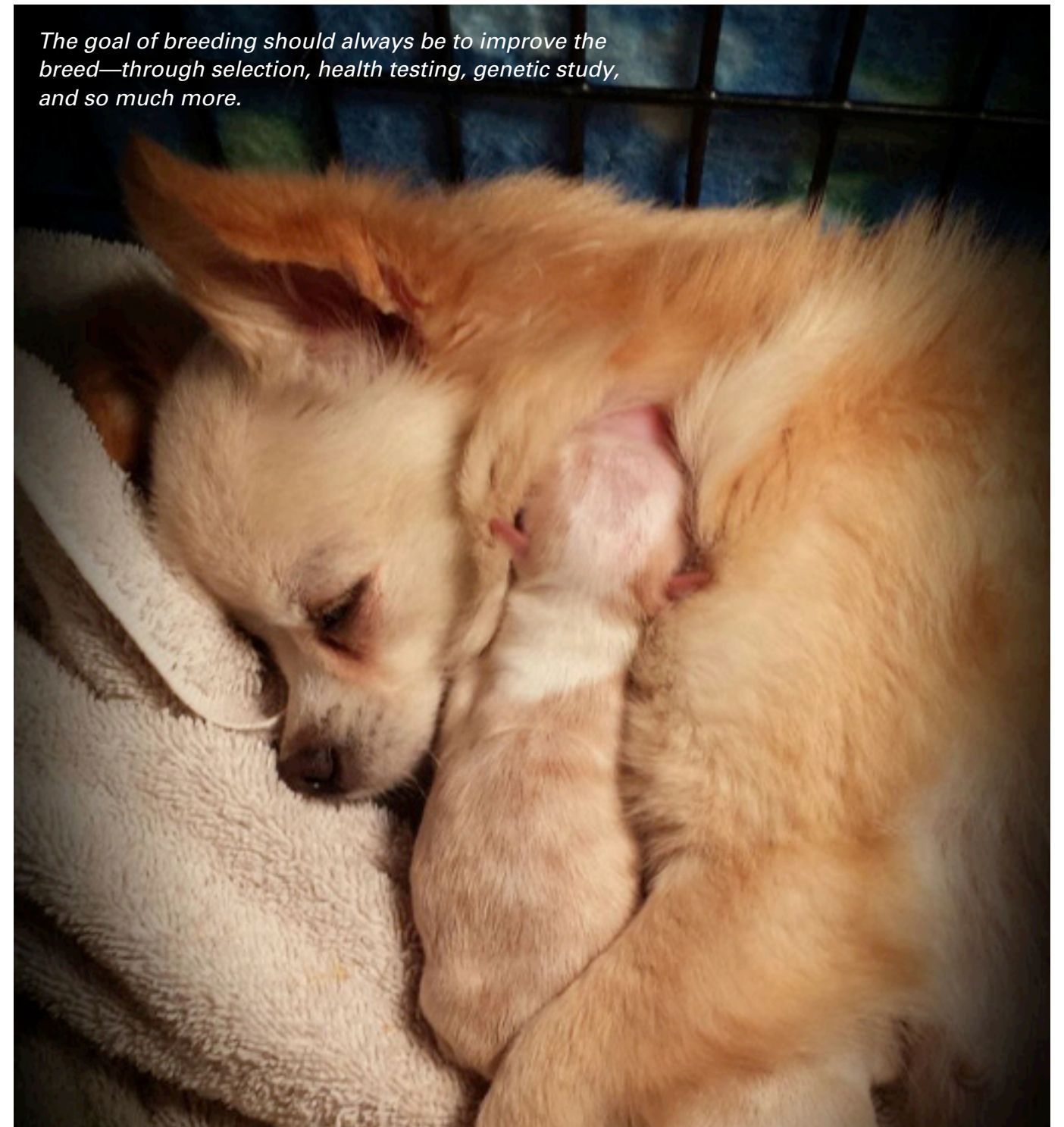
Chihuahuas

BREEDING THIS SMALL BREED

The Chihuahua is known as the smallest of all breeds of domesticated dogs. Breeding these little dogs is not an easy task. Many people see these tiny little dogs and think, “Wow, everyone wants a tiny dog! I can make some money breeding and selling the puppies.”

Not so fast! Money should *never* be the goal of breeding any animal. Your goal should be to improve the breed, and we do this by selection, health testing, genetic study, and so much more.

There are way too many people breeding dogs who have no idea of all that goes into breeding a quality dog. The Chihuahua is not



The goal of breeding should always be to improve the breed—through selection, health testing, genetic study, and so much more.

COURTESY VIRGINIA HAUBER

TOY GROUP

your average dog in terms of whelping. Oh, there are those wonderful, rare girls who can easily whelp a litter with no assistance at all. Although quality breeders select for this, anything can happen during the birthing process. Puppies can easily get stuck, and your mommy will need to have a Caesarean section. Finding a vet during the middle of the night can be a nightmare, and you better have your credit cards paid up, because it can cost as much as \$3,000 for an emergency C-section.

I have never let any of my girls whelp alone. They have a different timing than larger dogs and can whelp anywhere from 57 to 63 days after the first breeding. At 57 days I set up my whelping area in my bedroom in order to keep a close eye on her. At first she is a bit antsy at having been moved from her regular digs, but soon she becomes comfortable and begins to understand this is where her new babies will be whelped, and that I am at hand to calm her and help her if needed.

I have a whelping box that is always maintained and ready to go with everything I might need to help bring these long-awaited puppies into the world. The phone number for the emergency vet is taped right inside my whelping box just in case. I also like to have a “buddy” available to call if needed. Sometimes just having that experienced breeder friend available to help, if only to

calm our nerves. Make sure it is someone who has bred Chihuahuas, as they are not like your big dogs.

OK, now you supervise the dam as she free-whelps the litter, or you brought your mommy and babies home from having a C-section. At this time, both mommy and babies need watching. Be sure not to let mommy sleep on the puppies, which can suffocate the pup. I do not like putting blankets in their bed for that reason. Keeping the puppies warm is of the utmost importance. A cold puppy is a dead puppy. Weigh your puppies every two hours to see if they are gaining. At first they may even lose a bit of weight, but you must continue weighing them and charting the weight. You will not get much sleep the first night. At times, there may be a weaker pup who gets knocked off the teat by a stronger pup. After about 24 hours, if this weaker pup is not getting enough to eat, you may have to supplement them by hand feeding.

Every breeder needs to know how to tube-feed puppies. First try a bottle, and if the sucking reflexes are not strong enough, you may tube-feed your tiny pup to keep him or her growing stronger.

Eventually, when all is well and all the pups are nursing on their own and have started to gain a little weight, you can start relaxing and let mommy take over completely. I am close

by for the first week.

Remember, they should double their weight the first week. Don't worry if they haven't; some are just slower than others.

This is definitely a simplified idea of whelping a Chihuahua litter. There are whelping groups on the internet, some specific to the Chihuahua. Please know what you are up against before breeding one of these wonderful little dogs. Get informed.

—Virginia (Jenny) Hauber,
wynjynchis@yahoo.com
Chihuahua Club of America

Chinese Cresteds

Sue Klinckhardt-Gardner wrote the following piece in 2011.

THE BEAUTY OF OLD DOGS

One of the tragic realities of dog ownership is the fact that canine lives are almost always shorter than human lives. When we hold that tiny, squirming puppy in our hands, we always know that someday he will break our heart because his time here is short.

In comparison to many breeds, Chinese Cresteds live a relatively long time. We can expect about 15 years on the average, but it's still never long enough. Some breeders actually try to cheat the loss of an older dog

by placing the dogs whom they are through showing or breeding with someone else, but in my opinion they are missing one of the very best parts of their dogs' lives.

Old dogs know us best. They have been through a big part of our lives with us and they understand us. They know our moods; they know what we like; they know how to make us crazy. We're comfortable together, and we probably share a lot of the same characteristics. Like old couples who have been together for years, we have grown to be alike in many ways. (It kind of scares me that maybe we start looking alike, too.)

Old dogs know things. They have been observing the world for a long time and, unlike humans, they are not distracted by “the shiny stuff.” They understand human behavior better than we do. They know when to lie next to us or put their heads on our knees. They are much more attentive to us than we are to them. And they are never too busy for us.

Most importantly, old dogs have things to teach us. They have a quiet dignity that humans would do well to emulate. They face old age gracefully, not kicking and screaming the way humans have been told they should do. Too many of us are busy getting facelifts or having our bodies sucked into a different shape to stop and appreciate the beauty that comes with being older. Yes, it's different than



Chinese Crested

the beauty of youth. It's more complex, more interesting, has more depth. There is nothing more beautiful than a 15-year-old Chinese Crested—or an 85-year-old human. The response from the crowd at a national specialty to the veterans' classes demonstrates the deep emotion that these old guys solicit from us. No class gets more applause or cheers.

In this house, any dog who is here at age 7 stays. He has earned the right to stay and be spoiled and pampered and get any needed

medical care and special food until his journey is over.

The end of the journey is, of course, a sad time, but I wouldn't miss those wonderful golden years with him. —S.K.-G.

[American Chinese Crested Club](#)

Havanese

TURNING PANDEMIC BLUES INTO RED, WHITE, AND BLUE

It was just about mid-March 2020 that canine competitions of every type came to a quick and abrupt halt. Many thousands of events were cancelled nationwide and worldwide. Those of us who are lifelong weekend warriors of dog shows were all suddenly faced with the daunting problem of “what do we do now?” No one at that time had any idea how long this dog show void would last. Surely, we thought, we would be back to normal in a month. Two months? Three? Here we are many months later, and shows in the Northeast are still just about nonexistent. Hopefully, by the time you are reading this, life will have returned to “normal” for everyone. But maybe not quite as we've known it to be. So, while we await normalcy, we are all faced with the challenge of how to maintain dog sanity for ourselves and for our dogs.

A few years back, when my husband retired,

I gave him a plaque that says: AGENDA FOR THE DAY: LET DOG IN—LET DOG OUT—LET DOG IN—LET DOG OUT. While that was funny (I thought) at the time, we were determined not to let that thought rule our pandemic existence. Keeping our dogs in show shape became our reason for getting up in the morning.

Within a few days of acknowledging that it would be a considerable amount of time before our usual routine would resume, we launched into action for our own mental health and that of our dogs, particularly our experienced show dogs who were used to a rigorous show routine. It is not enough to say, “I will put a show leash on them and run them around the yard or the front hall.” While that would have been better than doing nothing, we wanted to “pretend” we were going to a show and they were expected to act like show dogs. Every day, we loaded several dogs into our van and, weather permitting, we drove to local school complexes. Schools were empty, and so were the parking lots. Alone, we would set up a grooming (exam) table, put on their show leads and pretend we were at a show, in constantly changing new environments.

It is helpful to have a friend or relative from whom you are not socially distancing work with you. Parking lots are great to train for running in a straight line—use the painted



Havanese

lines for guidance. Grassy areas and hardtop areas provide for variable surface training. Sidewalks help to work on bad habits of not going straight. Have your assistant video the training session for a later critique.

We have attended or taught handling classes weekly for nearly 50 years. We weren't going to stop even if it meant doing it alone. No one to help you in your home? Find a friend and use socially distancing recommendations to work together in this endeavor. You may be able to rent a room at a local training facility or boarding kennel. The important thing is to keep the dogs excited about being show dogs, not couch potatoes. Walk them around dog friendly stores in your community. Strip malls are great for getting dogs used to people walking in front of them and staring at them with

TOY GROUP

facemasks on.

Want to earn titles and compete? The AKC has done a very admirable job of providing a myriad of virtual events. Virtual Rally, Virtual Home Manners, Virtual Trick Dog, Virtual Agility, Virtual Water Test, and (ta-Dah!) the Virtual Top Dog Challenge—which replicates a real conformation competition from the luxury of your backyard. Not feeling too energetic some days? Then look into the AKC Canine College for dozens of courses you always wanted to take but never had the time to do.

Havanese, known for their playful and spirited personalities thrive on fun activities. As dedicated owners, we owe it to them to develop creative ways to entertain them. After all, you really can't have a bad day with a Havanese in your life. What have you done to cheer them up lately?

—Alice L. Lawrence,
pulifuzz@aol.com
Havanese Club of America

Italian Greyhounds

FUSSY EATERS

Many IG people have a problem with dogs who are fussy eaters. Over the years I have had a few myself, and I have come to the conclusion that, although many



possible health problems could enter into the picture, there are two main causes for this situation. The first is that some IGs suffer from some form of digestive problem, such as (most commonly) irritable bowel syndrome. The second and more prevalent cause is that the condition is enabled by a loving, overly solici-

tous owner.

Assuming that the dog in question has been examined by a veterinarian and physical causes for the eating disorder have been eliminated, let's talk about the solicitous owner. For starters, I know of no healthy dog who has voluntarily starved itself to death. Unfortunately,

since IGs don't carry much body fat, poor eaters quickly begin to look skeletal. The worse this becomes, the more the caring owner will enable the condition, usually by feeding the dog anything and everything it wants. Often this means table food, for which IGs can very meaningfully beg. Those pleading, soulful eyes and insistent paws are difficult to ignore.

The scenario for creating a fussy eater usually starts with giving some tasty table scraps. Next, the dog turns his royal nose up at his dish of dog food. Subsequently, the owner buys a different dog food—but that, too, is sniffed and left untouched. More dog foods follow, running the gamut from kibble to canned to premium packaged. When that doesn't work, the owner may try feeding raw or home-cooked food or both. The dog will eat a little of each but has already acquired the habit of waiting to see if something better is in the offing.

Often the owner, in a panic, will ask for help from Internet forums and receive a huge variety of suggestions, most of which will be tried, one after another or even several at once. The results are the same. Each new food seems to be the answer—briefly. Sometimes the desperate owner will allow the dog to eat human food from the table—anything to get the increasingly skinny IG to put on some weight.

If a show career has begun, things are even

MARY BLOOM ©AKC

TOY GROUP

worse, including hand-feeding meals bit by bit, then making “meatballs” and stuffing them down the dog’s throat. Some dogs actually learn to enjoy the whole process of being “stuffed.”

Another cause of dogs not eating is the practice of free-feeding—leaving food down at all times so the IGs can eat whenever they want. If there are multiple dogs, this usually results in some overweight ones and some that are too thin. This breed just doesn’t do well with free-feeding.

On the other hand, when fed only at certain times during the day, most dogs will learn quickly that the food is there to be eaten immediately and if it isn’t, it will be picked up and put away. It may sound hard and cold, but when feeding IGs, it’s best to keep the method simple and regimented. What isn’t consumed in 15 minutes is picked up, and there is no more food until the next scheduled feeding time. It’s much easier to not create a monster than to cure one. —Lilian S. Barber, 2012

[Italian Greyhound Club of America](#)

Miniature Pinschers

NOW, YOU WAIT!

Well, it’s done. You did the research by reading books and checking the



American Kennel Club and Miniature Pinscher Club of America websites, and you found a breeder close to you. You spent hours asking questions and talking about puppies, adults, and when the litter will arrive, and whether you can come to see the newborns, and how often you may visit as they grow until you take puppy home.

Finding a good breeder is the best way to go, as this will be someone who has researched pedigrees (health and structure) and spent years to breed the most healthy and genetically sound puppies and adults. Your breeder is able to discuss any questions that you or your veterinarian may have regarding your new puppy. She will guide you toward the best training techniques and will support you for that dog’s entire life.

Your breeder gave you a list of things to buy for your puppy: blankets, collar, lead, water bucket, food bowl, and toys—oh, my, yes, toys! You can’t walk by the toys in the store or forget them when you look online!

You and your family decide that waiting for a healthy puppy with a great support team is the best way to go. So the call comes: The sire and dam have been bred, and now the nine-week wait for the puppies to be born begins. It sure seems like a long time at first, but human babies take 9 months! Eight to 12 weeks is no time at all to wait for your Miniature Pinscher to ensure you will have many, many happy years together.

It’s week seven, and the time is coming. You go visit the dam, and she’s got a round belly, and is that bump on her side a little foot pushing out? She likes it when you rub her tummy and just wants to sit with you.

Another call: The babies are being born! Is

it really 2 A.M.? Three boys and two girls, red and black and rust. Did you put in a request for a specific color? And a certain sex? Well, forget that! Let’s just see who picks you out when they come running to you.

When you come to the house to see the puppies the first week, you are not allowed in the room, but you can take a look through the door or window. Newborns are vulnerable to cold, and their room is kept very warm. They are so cute, and do they really only weigh four ounces? Did you know their little ears are closed, and their eyes aren’t open?

Week three, and they are starting to stand and toddle around. Their ears and eyes are open. They are sensitive to sounds and quick movements. Hold tight when you snuggle and breathe in puppy breath.

Week six, and hold on! They are so cute and playing and jumping in their playroom. All of them rush to you for snuggling and maybe a little puppy-nibble to say hi. A black and rust puppy boy races toward you and settles into your lap. It’s hard to leave him, and your breeder says he’s yours.

Puppies don’t go to their new homes until after eight weeks, or sometimes a bit longer—however, you are willing to wait. A puppy from a reputable breeder will give you years of happy and healthy love and friendship. In addition you’ll have a person who will be

TOY GROUP

able to answer any questions you may have throughout his whole life.

Week nine, and congratulations! You have selected and are bringing home a little, four-legged baby Miniature Pinscher.

Your breeder presents you with a written agreement and a list of things to work on with your puppy:

1. Socializing is very important;
2. Feeding quality food is a must;
3. Exercise and play are required;
4. Grooming is imperative; and
5. Training makes all the difference.

Continue to talk with your breeder as your puppy grows up. She is able to give you breed insight and training techniques. A good idea is to take him to training classes to ensure he is well mannered in public. The camaraderie of other dog owners will give you a chance to talk about issues you may have that someone else has been through and can help with. —

Kim Byrd, 2014

[Miniature Pinscher Club of America](#)

Papillons

ARE NON-SHOW BREEDERS EVER CONSIDERED REPUTABLE?

Being a “show breeder” means you compete your dogs at AKC shows with other exhibitors and/or professional handlers, to



initially achieve the dogs’ championships. The purpose of competing is to see if your dog has the quality that meets with the breed’s standard and is deserving of a championship title.

Most people who love purebred dogs and have a desire to breed them usually begin their journey by first attending dog shows. In so doing, one can increase their canine knowledge by seeing the breeds up close, meet good breeders, and hopefully be able to visit their homes or kennels in order to eventually purchase their first show-quality dog and/or

foundation bitch.

Most times after a “newbie” shows their first dog to its championship title, a friendship is formed with the dog’s breeder, who becomes their mentor—and most often, a trusted lifetime friend. Then, depending on the contract they may have with their breeder/mentor, they may be able to enter into a co-ownership with terms agreed by both parties before they would be able to breed their champion and thus start their own breeding program.

As a newbie exhibitor, one starts out by making friends at the shows, possibly going to lunch or dinner with other exhibitors afterward to learn more about the breed. Whether you win or lose, always maintain good sportsmanship, and make sure to congratulate the winners. Also, spend valuable time among your peers viewing, discussing, and learning breed type, structure, and movement. Eventually, you will study pedigrees and learn from the reputable breeders. However, it still will take quite a while for a newbie to earn a good reputation in the breed. You will need to develop an “eye for a dog” and know how to distinguish show-quality dogs from pet-quality so that you can develop a good line of your own dogs that not only are healthy and sound but also are typey and exemplify the breed standard.

However, if one starts out with pet-quality

stock from a non-show breeder and tries to improve their “lines” without competing in conformation at AKC shows to obtain championships, it would be more difficult to be considered a reputable breeder. This is true even if those breeders are responsible and health-test all their dogs, including the sire and dam of a litter and their puppies.

Even more importantly, as a breeder, you need to attend shows, exhibit, and have your dog compete with others to see how they measure up to the competition. When you compete regularly, it will help to avoid “kennel blindness”—and it would be near impossible to avoid it for someone who doesn’t show. Therefore “breeding to the standard” and maintaining type, structure, and soundness without seeing how the offspring measure up to other Papillons, for example, would prevent one from consistently breeding excellent quality. If one produced an exceptional puppy using this non-competition approach, it would certainly be considered a fluke, never to be seen again, even if the breeding were repeated.

Here is an honest comment from a breeder who came to a realization when she showed her dogs: “I’ve kept many puppies thinking they were exceptional, then I showed them against competition and realized I was kennel blind and petted them out. It doesn’t have

TOY GROUP

so much to do with who wins what, but how your dog looks in the lineup from ringside. Sometimes they just don't measure up to the competition, and you never see that without putting them in the ring and taking a real and honest look at them, compared to others that are showing. A lot of Papillons conform to the standard. However, they just aren't very pretty!"

Some non-show breeders seem to believe there is always a bias against them even if they breed health-tested dogs and follow the protocol for the health, safety, happiness, and well-being of their dogs and puppies, which they believe conform to breed standards and meet the expectations of "well-bred" status.

Will those breeders ever earn status as being responsible, reputable breeders and be recognized as such, like the AKC's Breeders of Merit, or will they forever bear the stigma as "backyard breeders" simply because they do not show or compete and thus fall into a negative category? Or is it possible they could earn respect as a good, responsible, reputable breeder otherwise?

And in the middle of this conundrum are those puppy buyers who would just like to own a purebred dog but do not have the money to spend on a top-quality puppy from a reputable breeder. However, they would be pleased to have a good represen-

tative of the breed, even with a few flaws, as long as it is healthy and has a wonderful temperament. Would these buyers be more likely to purchase from a non-show breeder? It depends if they are not aficionados of the breed and only want a reasonable representative of the breed who is healthy and has a good temperament.

To back this up, a breeder who doesn't show would have an extremely difficult time purchasing really good "show-quality" dogs to begin a breeding program. First, presumably they'd have to start with pet-quality dogs and bitches. It could even be possible that some who did may have a gorgeous bitch (a fluke) from their pet-quality pedigrees and even have made her a finished champion. However, within several years of trying to breed this lovely bitch to quality dogs, she has produced nothing but pet quality. It stands to reason that one has to know the dogs behind their pedigrees. And even with the most knowledgeable of breeders, there is always a measure of uncertainty. Always study the dogs in your pedigrees to know which ones have quality and a proven record of success, and who repeatedly produced beautiful, healthy, and sound get.

—Roseann Fucillo

cilloette@yahoo.com

[Papillon Club of America](#)

Pekingese

DOG SHOWING IN THE NEW COVID-19 NORMAL

Just when you think you've got it all down for dog showing, you get thrown a new curveball, and this one was a big one. Keep your puppies home for six months, with little exposure to new situations or people, and then hope and pray they won't melt down at their first dog show. With the Covid19 Pandemic

and local shut downs, we were very limited on trying to socialize our puppies.

Without some sort of prep work, all young dogs are going to be apprehensive at a dog show. Think about it: They're leaving the relative calm, safe environment of home for the contained chaos called a dog show. We had no classes and nowhere to go other than up and down the driveway for six months for puppies that are now nearly a year old. And



AKC GAZETTE COLLECTION

TOY GROUP

in this type of situation it is easy to get a little bit lax on training—I know I did!

However, some things that did really help were making sure the puppies saw people other than my husband and me. Even if we could not get close, they could stand and see neighbors and friends outside. We marched up and down the driveway until it got too hot in Florida for Pekingese puppies. Once it got hot, we were off to Lowe's and Home Depot a couple times a week, only taking one puppy at a time so they would not have the security of a littermate. We bring a washable crate pad for the bottom of the shopping cart for the puppy and start wandering the aisles. They saw lots of people, many wearing hats, most wearing masks, loud noises ... think intercoms and forklifts. When going to get groceries or dinner (curbside pickup), one of us would take a puppy with us. Anything for a new experience to desensitize the puppies.

Once we opened up a little, we had conformation classes, but only a couple of them before the show. And my puppies were pretty awful. Dragging tails, not walking and giving me serious stink eye. If you are lucky enough to have conformation classes, go!

So, it's now time to head for three days of showing. With great uncertainty we rolled into the huge grooming area at the Tampa circuit in the early morning, even though we didn't

show until afternoon. The puppies were not happy with all the noise, barking, strange dogs and smells. I groomed and cuddled puppies all morning, being sure not to react to barking and loud noises, didn't want to reinforce shyness or fright reactions. Make grooming even more fun than normal with treats and hugs,

And then it's off to the ring. Keeping in mind a Pekingese can be a very manipulative drama queen, be able to identify what gets a specific puppy's attention: a flat rat, a squeaker, a piece of chicken, and so on, and they may possibly forget that this is a new, scary situation. Get the puppy totally focused on you. (By the way, in a lineup of dogs, it is very bad form to use your squeaker!) Don't be afraid to praise the puppy all the way through his time in the ring, gaiting, standing and during the exam.

Training your dogs will continue to be a challenge during the pandemic. The very best thing you can do is to train every day, even if it's only for three minutes. Be consistent with training and generous with praise. It is possible to get your puppies strong and confident during a pandemic—you just have to get creative!

Now that the shows are opened up, mask up and get out there. Stay safe.

—Susan Farrer Shephard

[The Pekingese Club of America](#)

Pomeranians

THAT'S THE WAY I LIKE IT

Breeding dogs is an art and a science and requires, at the most basic level, a deep understanding of the standard for your given breed. Standards are the blueprints that outline the exact features and qualities of a given breed. It is our duty as breeders to know why our breed was developed, to understand the

qualities essential for the breed to do the job it was created to do, and to carry these qualities into the next generation of pure-bred dogs.

Exhibiting dogs is a natural extension of breeding. We all have a desire to share the best of our breeding programs with the fancy and there is a thrill that accompanies the recognition of a beautiful dog winning in the show ring. At these events, we rely on judges



Pomeranian

COURTESY LYNDIA BEAM

TOY GROUP

to share a similar expertise of the breed standards, and objectively evaluate & reward the dogs they judge compared to the breed blueprints.

The logical question, then, is if our standards are descriptive, why do different “types” and “styles” exist within the breed? And if our standards outline what is important, why do different judges award different placements when looking at the same group of dogs?

This is due to the fact that the words and descriptions in any breed standard leave room for interpretation, and as with many things in life, each individual has personal preferences and differing opinions about those interpretations. This is what continues to make the sport of dogs so interesting!

However, what becomes a problem is when breeders, exhibitors, and judges are attracted to traits that are explicitly defined as incorrect for the breed. This is a continued trend and danger of showing as certain breeds become more “fancy” or “flashy” and begin to win. Often times the extra “flair” comes from incorrect structure, movement, coat, or head/eye shape. Dogs bred to work in the field all day have become more bulky and overdone in the name of being “fancy.” Breeds bred to work in the pasture have lost their head carriage, an essential characteristic of herding and moving livestock. These

are problems that result not from a difference of interpretation of a given trait, but rather a move away from what the standard is describing all together.

In a recent discussion ringside with another exhibitor, we were discussing the appropriate head and expression that is required for a Pomeranian. They were arguing that they prefer a “Chow like” head and expression, a shorter, wider muzzle with bigger, rounder, wider-set eyes—all traits in complete opposition to the wording of the breed standard. On Facebook I saw a post of a dog moving around the ring with an extremely high-stepping and overreaching front, combined with improper head and tail carriage. Several individuals commented on the photo saying they knew that the type of movement photographed was incorrect, but they liked it anyway!

This type of thinking is extremely dangerous to the continued improvement of our breeding stock and preservation of pure-bred dogs. While varying interpretation and individual preferences are a necessary and expected part of breeding and judging, we cannot allow those preferences and the things we like to be a contradiction to our breed standards.

—Stephanie Hentschel,
darrightpoms@gmail.com
[American Pomeranian Club](#)

Shih Tzu

The following was approved by the ASTC board of directors in June 2020.

ASTC RESPONSE TO DUTCH CHANGES REGARDING BRACHYCEPHALIC BREEDS

The American Shih Tzu Club would like to express its concerns about and opposition to the breeding and registration changes adopted by the Dutch Government and the Dutch Kennel Club (Raad van Beheer) that recklessly target brachycephalic breeds, including Shih Tzu, in the Netherlands. Their extreme regulations will result in significant changes to the distinctive head and expression that have characterized our breed for more than a century while doing little to improve overall canine health.

Our breed was not officially recognized by the American Kennel Club until 1969, but the first Shih Tzu arrived here from England in the late 1930s. The lion-like, chrysanthemum-faced Shih Tzu was developed as the distinctive breed known today in the court of Dowager Empress Cixi (Tzu-hsi, 1835–1908), and similar small, shaggy, lion-like dogs in China date back to at least 1000 B.C.

Although the breed became extinct in its native land after the Communist Revolution of 1949, it continued to exist because of the Chinese dogs that had been brought to England and Scandinavia in the early 1930s.



Jo Ann White, longtime GAZETTE columnist and recipient of the American Shih Tzu Club's AKC Outstanding Sportsmanship Award, with her beloved Chico, GCh. Krissy's Tybee Dream Machine, ROM.

Since that time, responsible breeders throughout the world have tried to preserve and protect the distinctive characteristics of this lovely breed. Shih Tzu bred to the breed

COURTESY JO ANN WHITE

TOY GROUP

standard are very sturdy, healthy, long-lived dogs. While they are generally considered companions, Shih Tzu compete successfully in performance events such as agility and lure coursing. The Shih Tzu standard calls for a broad, square muzzle and lower jaw and wide open nostrils. Pinched nostrils (stenotic nares) and elongated soft palates are rarely seen in well-bred Shih Tzu. Although the muzzle length may vary slightly based on the size of the dog, an extremely short, uptilted muzzle (the “Persian kitten” look) in a Shih Tzu is as undesirable as a long, narrow one. And how would lengthening the muzzle resolve the issue of tracheal collapse, which rescue organizations see most often in several long-nosed toy breeds but rarely in Shih Tzu? Or the distress experienced by a heavily-coated breed with a muzzle of any length walked on hot concrete or exposed to extreme heat and humidity, particularly under stressful conditions like air travel? Obesity is also a major contributor to breathing issues. A recent study led by the Roslin Institute at the University of Edinburgh’s Royal School of Veterinary Studies has found that a DNA mutation in a gene called ADAMTS3 that is NOT dependent on skull shape is linked to upper airway syndrome in Norwich Terriers and is also common in French and English bulldogs. This is yet another indication that at least some of what is being called brachycephalic airway syndrome may very well

not even be linked to the length of the muzzle. Sensible regulations should target individual dogs of any breed with actual breathing difficulties or other serious health or temperament issues, rather than destroying much-loved breeds without actually solving whatever problems may exist.

Breed clubs throughout the world promote the breeding of sound, healthy representatives of breeds that have been in existence for many years. What the new Dutch regulations do is prevent responsible preservation breeders from continuing to create healthy dogs that conform to a breed standard that does not promote extremes. Instead, they encourage irresponsible breeders who do not care whether their dogs are registerable or conform to the historic breed standard to produce extreme, unhealthy, and unsound dogs. We are happy to support initiatives that promote the responsible breeding of healthy dogs, but that is not what these regulations do. —ASTC *Outstanding Sportsmanship Award.*

I am humbled to share the following:

“The American Shih Tzu Club Board of Directors is pleased to award Jo Ann White the AKC Outstanding Sportsmanship Award. Her devotion and service to our breed and the whole dog fancy began over 50 years ago. She was actively exhibiting her first Shih Tzu Tien and Nushi in matches during the later 1960s, before Shih Tzu were officially able to compete

in AKC shows.

“From her early days breeding and showing in the northeastern US to her move with her husband Dick to the western coast of Florida, Jo Ann lived with a limited number of Shih Tzu in their home. Many of these dogs attained their championships. Most notable among these dogs is Jo Ann’s ‘heart dog,’ GCh. Krissy’s Tybee Dream Machine, ROM, her beloved Chico.

“Jo Ann has been active in not only Shih Tzu clubs but also all-breed clubs throughout the years. Her membership in the American Shih Tzu Club began in 1973, making her the longest active member of our club. Her involvement has taken many forms. She has served on the board of directors for many years, including serving as president during 1995. For many years she’s written our breed column for the AKC GAZETTE. She’s chaired various club committees and presently serves as the website coordinator. Jo Ann also has been coordinating our booth at Meet The Breeds during Westminster week. One of her more daunting tasks was as show chairman of the 2019 national specialty held in Fort Lauderdale.

“Along the way, Jo Ann was honored with a life membership in the American Shih Tzu Club. Jo Ann is currently a member of not only ASTC, but also the Shih Tzu Club of Central Florida and the Manatee, Florida, all-breed club. During her early days she was active in the Shih

Tzu Fanciers of Greater New York.

“Last, but not least, Jo Ann made a lasting contribution to our breed in writing what many regard as the definitive book on the Shih Tzu breed, *The Official Book of The Shih Tzu*.

“Never one to want the spotlight, Jo Ann can be counted on to take on a task and thoroughly complete it. She can be counted on to help and sound advice. Despite current health limitations, Jo Ann is still very active on the ASTC board of directors, website, and specialty committees.

“Jo Ann is the epitome of which every canine enthusiast should strive to be.” —Judith Wilson
—Jo Ann White,
[American Shih Tzu Club](#)

Yorkshire Terriers

Janet Jackson wrote the following for this column in 2012 about the ever-evolving sport of dogs.

BETTER DOGS!

Times are changing in the world of pure-bred dogs. As evidenced in lower registration numbers and smaller entries in many cases, more people are doing more things with fewer dogs. Those of us who continue to exhibit in conformation may bemoan the lack of majors and fewer choices for breeding sires and show puppies, but we also see an increase of partici-

TOY GROUP

pation in various companion and performance events.

Few have the resources to breed on a large scale. Vet prices are way up, and pet prices are way down. Lately I've noticed that prospective pet owners are thankfully no longer requesting a "two-pound dog." I can recall not that long ago when it came to a pet, everyone wanted "tiny." Not today. People are more active, exercise and walking are popular, and they are typically searching for a small dog who is within the standard "but not too small." Although we are still educating the public about the improper colors (in a breed that only comes in one choice!), it does seem that the "teacup" Yorkie has begun to fall out of favor.

One of the greatest challenges in this breed in terms of producing dogs for the conformation ring has and always will be consistently producing the correct coat color and texture. The requirements in the standard for coat quality and color are quite specific and are indeed a challenge when one is striving for perfection.

More pet owners prefer a cute haircut over growing a show coat, and therefore they lean more toward temperament and health over the quality of coat in choosing a puppy. I hope we are doing our job to educate potential show-enthusiasts about the fine points of breeding for coat quality. At the same time, however, we are taking pride in producing healthy, sound pup-

pies for those who prefer this breed for the terrier attitude and longevity it is known for.

The Yorkshire Terrier Club of America Health Foundation came to our board some years ago and asked for us to implement the CHIC program. Most breeders are doing health testing even beyond the requirements of CERF and OFA patella screening. No dog may win a club award for conformation without a CHIC number. We now have health clinics at our specialties, and our foundation continues to fund countless grants to study health issues particular to the breed.

The AKC has implemented classes for owner-handlers and incentive for those wishing to continue conformation showing past the championship title. Additional titles are also offered in obedience, rally, agility, tracking, and other sports, allowing enthusiasts to continue competing.

In spite of continuing economic challenges and unreasonable anti-dog legislation throughout the country, I think owners of purebred dogs have pulled together to make a closer-knit family, and I think we have made great strides to prove that AKC dogs are simply the best. No other registry has what we have to offer.

In this time of possibly fewer dogs, I hope everyone will take advantage of what we are doing and continue to produce the best dogs—and maybe even better! —J.J.

[Yorkshire Terrier Club of America](#)

NON-SPORTING GROUP

Bichons Frises

FOR SAFETY'S SAKE

It is surprising how blasé some people are about leaving their dogs in unsafe environments. I have seen dogs left in unlocked cars with windows and/or doors wide open, running in unsecured yards in plain sight, and in crates or ex-pens at dog shows with apparently

no one on guard.

There are many reports of dogs stolen from cars, vans, homes, yards, and so on. Handlers at shows have reported dogs being poisoned, shaved, and even set loose. Puppies and adults have been stolen from vans and ex-pens at dog shows and motels, and vehicles have been stolen with dogs inside.



Bichons Frises: AKC Meet the Breeds

DAVID WOO ©AKC

NON-SPORTING GROUP

If you must leave your dogs in a car or van, try to have someone watching. It helps to have an alarm, but *you* must be able to hear it, since most people ignore car alarms. Never leave a dog running loose inside a car or van! Put crates down low behind privacy glass or in the back, where they are not visible to passersby. If you take a break at a rest stop, you should go to the restroom first and then exercise the dogs, so no one sees you put your dogs in the car and then leave them. Needless to say, dogs left alone in vans or cars overnight are an invitation to thieves.

Your yard is not safe unless you have a locked gate and are at home. Thieves case neighborhoods for small dogs and then sell them on the internet. Do not ignore barking. Clever thieves, however, may try to make friends with the dogs, feeding them treats and absconding with them without your knowledge.

Coyotes can scale a tall fence and kill your small dog in a few seconds. I knew someone whose dog was attacked in her backyard. Even though she was at home and came running when she heard the fracas, it was too late. She arrived just in time to see the coyote going back over the six-foot fence with her darling doggie dangling from its mouth.

If dog runs are completely enclosed—the tops, too—and all gates are kept locked, your

dog cannot escape, and no predator can get in. This will deter most thieves unless they are determined to steal a particular dog.

At the dog shows, someone should be watching your animals at all times. If you need to leave for a few minutes, ask neighboring handlers to keep an eye on your setup. If you're going to be gone for any length of time, you might want to take the dogs with you either on leads or in their crates.

Uncovered ex-pens can be dangerous. Who hasn't heard of a dog escaping from one of these? It has even happened at the BFCA national specialty! Just because your dog has never tried to climb out of an ex-pen does not mean he is not capable of it. If a dog is frightened, he or she might jump or climb right over a 36-inch ex-pen. Invest in a top, and use it. The top of the ex-pen must be secured all around. I saw one dog almost strangle himself between the top and side panels of an ex-pen.

Using good sense and being diligent will make your dogs safer and should give you peace of mind. Our wonderful Bichons are certainly worth it!

Wishing you happy holidays, and a safe, COVID-free, and successful New Year.

—Mayno Blanding,

maynob@gmail.com

[Bichon Frise Club of America](#)

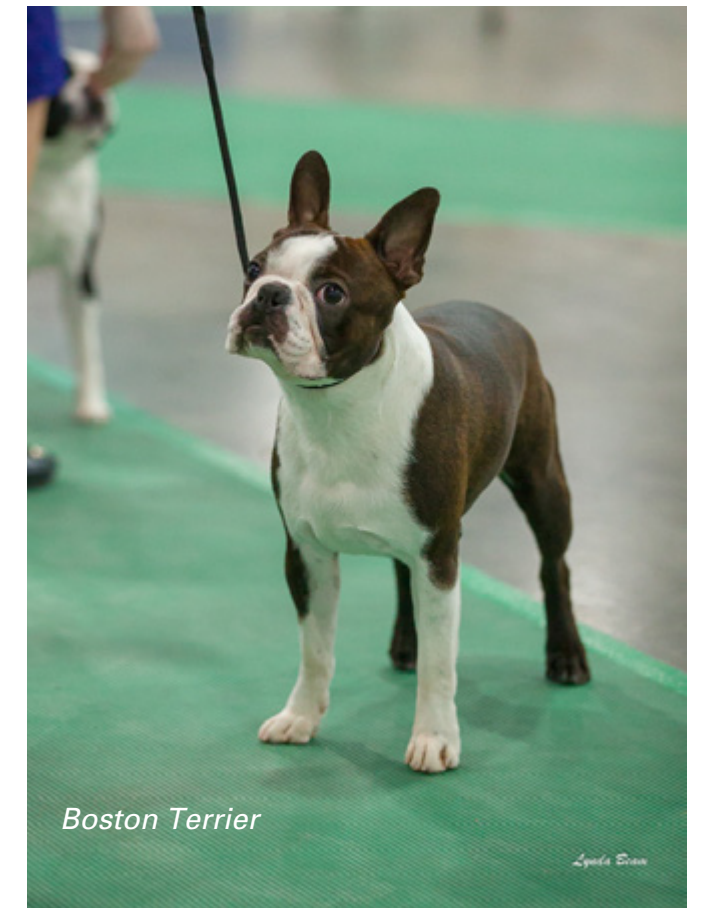
Boston Terriers

BOSTON TERRIERS CAN GET INTO A LOT OF TROUBLE!

If you think it may happen, it probably will. Bostons are curious and very brave. They are a small breed who will take up for itself. If there is a high porch and you think the dog won't dare jump off it, think again. If the neighbor gives the dog a lot of attention, if the dog is ever missing, go to their house. Remember that whoever gives them the best deal is the place they will go. Do not leave out a bottle of bleach, pesticides, or anything that could be dangerous; don't assume the dog won't lick it or knock it over. Christmas tinsel dropped on the floor could be eaten. When you have a Boston, consider the dog to be like a 3-year-old child who is into everything.

Don't play tug of war with a rope, because this can cause the dog to get very competitive. Hors d'oeuvres with toothpicks can have a nice smell of meat on them; when dropped on the floor, these could be scooped up by a hungry pet. At Christmas time everyone should be on alert, so maybe a trip to the veterinarian won't be needed. Boston Terriers hate yelling and are highly intelligent and sensitive, and they have their feelings hurt easily.

The holidays can be a bad time to sell a pet to a new family. People get caught up in



Boston Terrier

Lynda Beam

the atmosphere of buying anything to make someone happy. They don't consider what drama happens when so many people get together and want to play with the new pup. Impulse-buying is one of the reasons why there are so many pets found in animal shelters, months after Christmas, with unhappy people getting rid of the living Christmas gift that has made all involved miserable. Just imagine a contented baby pup, safe with his mother and the breeder—then sold as a

COURTESY LYNDA BEAM

NON-SPORTING GROUP

Christmas gift to a family who considers him a pretty trophy to put on display. Everyone wants to play with and stress out the new pup. Think of this same pup going to a new home earlier, or else months after Christmas—at a quiet, peaceful place, with plenty of time to bond with the new family members.

We all are under a lot of stress this season, more than ever. Breeders should help to ensure that the transition to a new home is as wonderful as possible. If after the holidays, you learn the new owners, swept up by the carnival effect of Christmas time, couldn't wait for their new puppy and went to someone else, remember that someone better and more caring will come along. The only concern should be the welfare of the pup and the right new family giving them a forever home. Many times in my 50 years of breeding dogs I have said, if it doesn't feel right, don't do it! When you can wake up in the morning and like the person you see, what a wonderful feeling. Never sell a dog for just the money; do it to give them a good life. Breed for the love of the Boston Terrier, and care about all the show and pet puppies alike—their destiny is in our hands.

—Patricia S. Johnson, member DWAA and BTCA,

patsgrooming@aol.com

[Boston Terrier Club of America](#)

Chinese Shar-Pei

THE STUD DOG

So you have a bright, shiny, new big stud dog? And based on his early show career, people are filling up your inbox with stud-service requests? And you believe, based on his pedigree and wins and great looks, he could be the “next great thing” in your breed? Very cool. Wonderful. Congratulations! That must mean that you are totally ready to protect your boy, protect the breed, and do the work to safeguard your future.

What's that? You look puzzled. Oh. You think because you invested in the dog, the shows, and the breed tests, your work is done? Well, good for you finding a great dog (or maybe even breeding one), and for backing that dog to get notice and accolades, and especially for doing all the breed tests to make sure the next generation is healthy. Those are all great steps that many would not have bothered with before standing a dog at stud, so the breed thanks you.

Now, I have to tell you, there is more to it. And many of us have learned these lessons the hard way. It is your responsibility to pick and choose who can breed to your dog. Not just those with money. What is the pedigree of the bitch? Are they lines that cross well with your dog's lines? What are the things you'd change about your boy? (You need to



It's important to know a stud dog's strengths and weaknesses and how his lines cross with others.

COURTESY KAREN KLEINHANS DESILVA

NON-SPORTING GROUP

make sure *her* bloodline doesn't have those same problems, or you are setting them in stone.) What are the strongest traits coming down through his pedigree? Will he add good pigment? Are the fronts great, as far back as the eye can see? Is there a low tail-set lurking behind him? You have to know all of those things so you can best protect his reputation, his downline, and your breed. Some people will be quick to say any negatives are his fault—so limit that chance!

OK, so you know the strengths and weaknesses of your stud dog, you know the lines used to produce him, and you know that not all lines cross the same. No? Oh. Well, you might want to talk to longtime breeders who have used these lines. For example, the only place Breeder X ever saw underbites was when she crossed A line (your stud's lines) to B line, and the whole litter went undershot! The one time that Breeder Y had bad ears was when he used A lines with the C lines out of the Northwest. And Breeder Z, who's been around forever and has dogs five generations back from your stud dog, can pull out the pictures and pedigrees and show you where the overbite lurks, where the bad toplines hail from, and where the short shoulders will show up if you line-breed that way.

Excellent. You are now as ready as can be, for all the dog and health considerations. You

know what lines to kindly say, "No, I don't think that will be a good cross," or "Oh, no, wait—that's a line-breeding I think we should avoid." These choices mean fewer unhappy whelping box surprises, for you, for the bitch owner, and for the breed, so good on you!

And one more piece of advice: Watch out for the humans. They don't always have the best intentions for your boy, and he can get caught in crossfire. I had a young stud dog, and a woman used him to produce eight puppies—four show pups, all in good homes, and four who went to pet homes. Or so I was told. I found out from a poster at the national that the woman had used one of the pets to replace a show dog gone bad for another person. And that person was so mad they took unattractive photos of this poor, unhappy creature and posted them at the national, indicating *my* stud dog's name, along with the breeder's name. As if my boy had personally created a less-than-stunning example and forced it on her. I learned a *huge* lesson: It's *my* job to protect my dog from the slings and arrows of humans. I got a lot more protective, clear, and detailed in my conversations after that. The dogs do their job: They show, they reproduce, they trust. *You* have to protect them, and their reputations, against all bad comers, if you want to have a stud dog with a storied career.

—Karen Kleinhans DeSilva,
kasupe@aol.com
Chinese Shar-Pei Club of America

Chow Chows

WONDERFUL CHOW CHOW HISTORY ARCHIVE ONLINE

"If you want to understand today, you have to search yesterday." —Pearl Buck

Our AKC Chow Chow standard says, "An ancient breed of northern Chinese origin, this all-purpose dog of China was used for hunting, herding, pulling and protection of the home. While primarily a companion today, his working origin must always be remembered when assessing true Chow type." Have you wondered why this is a requirement for the breed? You will find many answers on this wonderful Chow Chow archive site. This site contains an amazing collection of photos, articles, and videos dating back to the 1800s and before.

Did you know that there was a Chow on the *Titanic*? That the dog who Admiral Dewey made

famous in 1913 was a Chow Chow? Did you know that President Calvin Coolidge and his wife owned Chows? Are you interested to see photos of the early Chow Chows imported from China? Wanting to see movie clips of Chow Chows at a dog show in the 1920s? The archives contain all of this, and much more.

Over a period of 110 years, the Chow Chow's AKC standard has changed four times after its initial creation in 1906. Each of the



From the standard: "While primarily a companion today, his working origin must always be remembered when assessing true Chow type."

COURTESY LOVE BANGHART

NON-SPORTING GROUP

standards is available on this archive (1925, 1941, 1986, and 1996). It is very interesting to note the changes, and to see photos that document the impact these changes have had on our breed.

Our breed has benefited from the generosity and passion of a very dedicated artist, Sandra Miller, and her gifted technology-specialist husband, Steve Miller. The Millers are respected past-breeder-exhibitors of our breed and have created and funded the archive project. Although legally blind, Sandra personally restores the photos prior to inclusion on the site. They are dedicated to the ongoing development of the archive project website. The archive is easy to navigate and browse, and best of all, it is searchable. The website is permanently hosted and is titled [Chowtales Archive](#).

The site's focus is specifically on pre-1950s Chow images and breed-related articles and ephemera, with the stories to go with them, in an easy-on-the-eyes format. The collection is extensive, and the stories behind the photos mindboggling. Chow fanciers extend a big *thank you* to all the Chow Chow memorabilia collectors worldwide who have been contributing their own collections and items to the archives. Paper photos and articles eventually get tossed in the garbage or deteriorate over time, so every tidbit of information is

preserved digitally, which guarantees it will not be lost to future generations. This site is a virtual museum for the Chow breed. Even though the curator, Sandra, and her husband no longer breed or exhibit, they feel it is important to remain involved with this breed they are deeply passionate about.

Categories of photos and articles in the archive include breed history, celebrities, historical articles, AKC and international Chow standards, collectables, and curated photos.

We hope you will take time to enjoy this archive, and know that you will benefit from the knowledge you will gain of the history of our beautiful breed.

—Love Banghart,
Lkendr4300@aol.com
Chow Chow Club, Inc.

Dalmatians

WHAT MATTERS

Well, 2020 undoubtedly didn't play out as planned. As we come to the end of the year, I think it would be good for us all to look back over the last 12 months and see where we were at and how far we've come.

COVID-19 certainly was the story of the year—and maybe the decade, although we've still yet got a long way to go in the 2020s. As we quarantined, we have all had to slow down



We would all do well to embrace our dogs' approach to life.

and reevaluate our lives. And despite the ups and downs we've been through, I know the one saving grace for me personally was in knowing my family (including my dogs) came through relatively unscathed. I am grateful for every day and every hour spent with them, and for the things I have learned from my family members—both human and canine. But dog lessons, especially, boil things down to their very basic components, and we would do

well to embrace our dogs' approach to life.

Dogs take things one day at a time and have made me realize that perhaps that is the best way we can handle things. They do not fret about matters out of their control yet are still able to live their lives to the fullest. I think I want to approach my life in the same manner.

They also make me laugh and appreciate that, even at its seeming worst, life has a lot to smile about and enjoy. Just seeing my guys

COURTESY LINDA DAVIS

NON-SPORTING GROUP

chase a ball across the room and return it to me with shining eyes makes my heart feel a little lighter, and I know we will get through this.

And the one thing I think they do the best, and where we would be well advised to emulate them, is to love to the fullest. They don't let silly spats and misunderstandings affect how they feel about their people. They *love* us, completely and wholeheartedly and in the most forgiving of ways.

So, as we enter 2021 and start a new year, I believe my official resolutions will be to live my life more like my dogs, never taking anything for granted and remembering the most important things of all.

Wishing you all a merry Christmas and happy holidays, and may 2021 shine brightly on us all.

—Jan Warren Linné,
janlinne56@yahoo.com
Dalmatian Club of America

French Bulldogs

INTRODUCING THE NEW FBDCA INTERNATIONAL IMPACT COMMITTEE

An edict by the Dutch club mandating a longer muzzle-length for brachycephalic breeds is posing a threat to the integrity of the French Bulldog standard as we know it. The board of the French Bull Dog Club of



America quickly formed a committee and named Robin and Cindy Stansell to be the joint chairs. Virginia Rowland, Dr. Lori Hunt and Nicole Denny are also committee members.

This committee's goals and work will be explored in next quarter's publication. Let's meet our committee. Each member is introduced to us with a lengthy history in dogs and club work, and all of them share a strong commitment to protect the French Bulldog.

- Robin and Cindy Stansell are well suited to deal with other countries. Cindy grew up country-hopping since her father was an executive in the United Nations. Robin had a 23-year Army career (and had several tours posted overseas, including several tours in

Germany during which he showed his dogs at Federation Cynologique Internationale (FCI) shows), followed by an additional 12 years working internationally as a defense contractor, and then 12 years as an executive for the AKC. One or both have judged in 17 different countries. They have given breed seminars and lectures regarding legislation in many of these countries. This has created contacts and trusted friends in several kennel clubs around the world.

- Virginia Rowland has served on the FBDCA Judges' Education committee for many years. She has owned French Bulldogs for over 40 years, breeding occasionally under the Blackslate registered kennel prefix. She has served the FBDCA in other capacities including club president for four years, show chair of the 2014 national specialty, and show chair of the FBDCA specialties in New York City held in February in association with the New York Metro Specialties. She has been an AKC judge of French Bulldogs since 1998, and has judged the FBDCA national specialty in 2010 as well as regional specialties, and also has judged Frenchies in Australia and New Zealand. She is very active in the American Bullmastiff Association as a board member, past president, and National Rescue Coordinator. She has been active in the Ladies' Dog Club and has served as president

of the Massachusetts Federation of Dog Clubs and Responsible Dog owners for many years. Ms. Rowland works tirelessly for legislation benefitting dogs and their breeders.

- Lori Hunt, DVM, is a practicing small animal and reproduction veterinarian in Ohio. Her obsession with the Frenchie began in 1999. In a limited breeding program, she has bred over 40 champions, greater than 20 Register of Merit dogs, and more than 20 performance titles for Frenchies, as well as three OFA Champions for Health since the inception of the program. She has written many articles on French Bulldog health and genetics that have been published in magazines and online entities across the world.

She has previously served on the FBDCA BOD and served as committee head of the Health and Genetics committee. In addition, she is an AKC judge and has been judging the breed since 2015. Her assignments have included many specialties, both in the U.S. and internationally.

- Nicole Denny has been in the sport of purebred dogs for 20 years. She has owned French Bulldogs for 15 years and has bred them for the past nine years. Ms. Denny is a professional handler and has handled other brachycephalic breeds and is familiar with their traits and behavior. As a handler she has a firm grasp and understanding of the breed

BREED COLUMNS

NON-SPORTING GROUP

standard. She will support the committee and help with research. Nicole Denny wants the best possible for their welfare.

There is a private Facebook page that is devoted to the preservation of the brachycephalic breeds, called Bracy Union-Standard Protection. This group fights against activists who want to ban the brachy breeds. It is now in the Netherlands and could soon spread to other countries, even to the United States. Search out Bracy Union on Facebook, start reading, and get involved. We must protect the integrity of our beloved breed and a pedigree system on which we have long relied.

—Sande Abernathy,
jpaplay@comcast.net
French Bull Dog Club of America

Keeshonden

Our guest columnist this month is Alecia Novak. Alecia is a resident of Windsor, Ontario, and is a member of both the Keeshond Club of Canada and the Keeshond Club of America. Most importantly, she is a Keeshond owner, handler, trainer, and groomer, and a superb ambassador for our breed and purebred dogs overall. No matter your breed, please read this column—it will not only make your day, it will also put a smile on your face.



WHAT IT'S ALL ABOUT

Today was an eye-opening day for me. It was a *huge* “aha!” moment about the little things in life. Why, you ask? Well, because of these three beauties (OK, one is handsome). What made today so special? My heart. Why? Because since the last time I set foot on a show site with my dog show family on March 14, 2020, life has been almost unrecognizable and seeming full of despair and loneliness for many, including me. It's been a tough road, especially when you haven't seen your dog show friends, who are more like family, in 231 days or more, and your passion for showing dogs has been markedly absent for so long.

Eleven and a half years ago, when I brought pick-of-the-litter Taiga home from her preservation Keeshond breeder, I swore I was never



Celebrating Halloween in their winged costumes, Alecia Novak's Keeshonden were popular breed ambassadors at a local outdoor market.

COURTESY ALECIA NOVAK



NON-SPORTING GROUP

going to show dogs. Then I entered my first show, at age 44, and I was hooked. I never looked back. I insisted on showing my own dog, and getting all her points myself was my goal. It was a steep learning curve (it's still not over), and I did it all. I schlepped crates and dogs all over the U.S. and Canada, added a second Keeshond, Kaniq, to the conformation ring, got Taiga's championship in Canada and the U.S., added her grand championship in the U.S., and then did the same with Kaniq. We tried out UKC, IABCA, messed around in the Rally ring, played in Barn Hunt, and went to many nationals, specialties, and shows. We picked up majors, made the cut at the regional specialty attached to our national, took Winners Bitch at the Canadian national, and we had the time of our lives with our circle of friends.

Sure, there were tears—of both joy and frustration. Nothing humbles you or tests your tenacity or integrity more than dog shows. The high highs, the lowly lows, the pure exhaustion, the drama, and the incredible friendships—and yes, the dreaded “dog show hangovers” on Mondays (my name for the après-dog-show-weekend stupor).

So why did I keep doing it? I wasn't going to breed, but this was just a goal for me—something non-athletic I could actually do—and I got to spend time with my dogs and my

friends, bonding and learning more about my breed of now 27 years.

So now, the eye-opening part. Remember when I said I was never going to show? I lied. I also lied about never getting a mini-van (how else can you transport all the dog show paraphernalia?), never going to breed (two litters now), and never going to have a male Keeshond, only girls. (Karma had other plans—welcome Orion.) I hate liars. I hate dishonestly. But I was really only lying to myself. And had I not, I would not have had the wonderful experience I had today. Because all of that dog show learning has made me a proud ambassador to the Keeshond breed and to responsible, preservation, purebred dogs.

And sometimes the universe conspires to bring you to a moment, like today.

An ordinary farmer's market day in my city. I have been taking Orion to the downtown outdoor market every Saturday all summer since the pandemic started. It's been one of the few options for socialization in these trying times. He has been stellar. All the vendors recognize Squishy (his nickname), and they look for us every week.

This week was supposed to be the last weekend of the season, so I decided to plan something special. Hallowe'en, market day, and the last market of the season ... *perfect*. I will bring

all *three* dogs to market *in costume!* (Yes, I am crazy.)

When we left home, there was frost on the windshield. We got to the market as the sun was beginning to shine through the clouds. Taiga was a bumblebee, Kaniq a ladybug, and Squishy (Orion) was a dragon, each complete with wings. (Total value of the dollar-store deal: \$10 for all three costumes.)

We strolled in, with our wagon, and it was as if time stood still. It got quiet for a second, and then the squeals and sharp intakes of breath started. Excitement was in the air. My pack was amazing! They have all been well socialized to crowds, so they knew what to expect. Suddenly they were surrounded by kids in costume—and adults, too! Everyone was extremely polite, asking if they could take photos and if they could love on the dogs. *Of course! They expect it!*

This might be the first time I could *really* see the expressions behind the masks. The genuine gleam of laughter and joy in the eyes, the crinkles in the corners, the cheeks uplifted in glee. And the sun shone. It warmed the air and the hearts of so many today, and I was *so* proud.

I was proud that my dogs were so incredibly well behaved (many people complimented them on their behavior) and that they were recognized as the special breed ambassadors

that they are. I was inundated with questions that I was more than happy to answer—*What breed is that? Are they triplets?* (Ages 11½ years, 6½ years, and 20 months ... um, no...) *Do they shed? Are they purebreds? Are they friendly?*—and all the other things people want to know about our breed. And my pack patiently took it all in, from the smallest mittened hands to the shaky hands of the elderly, they accepted the love and brought joy.

I gave all the details, names, ages, anecdotes, breed specifics—and most importantly, why it's crucial to get your purebred dog from a reputable preservation breeder. (Now, I am all for getting a dog from a shelter, but if you are getting a dog from a breeder, please, do your homework!)

So no, we didn't win any ribbons, rosettes, or points today, we didn't travel far, and we didn't have our circle of dog show friends with us. (We had our local Kees friends Karen and Lyra accompanying us, helping with the wagon and feeding the parking meter—Karen and Lyra, we thank and love you for it.) We just brought joy, in a time when there has been so little to be joyful about. And the sun shone, and the people smiled with their eyes, and my pride burst from within me, and I was so moved. And this, this is what it's all about. Just this: the bond between dogs and humans.

It's a beautiful thing.

NON-SPORTING GROUP

It was an amazing day. —Alecia Novak
Thank you very much for sharing this,
Alecia.

—Debbie Lynch,
dlnpoconsult@gmail.com
Keeshond Club of America

Lhasa Apsos WALRUS PUPPIES

The bitch had an uneventful pregnancy, her second. She had delivered her first litter easily and quickly, but this time one puppy was born, labor slowed, then stopped. A late-night trip to the emergency clinic revealed a very large puppy stuck in the uterine horn.

Usually this story ends following surgery with a mildly sleepy, really fat healthy puppy. But this puppy was different: grossly swollen to twice-normal size, laboring to breathe, with excess fluid in the body compressing the lungs and heart. The vet recommended a merciful end.

Walrus puppy. Water baby. These were the names I heard from early mentors about such puppies, whose tiny, misshapen bodies resemble that of a beached walrus. Invariably a Caesarian was needed, and mortality was 100 percent. *Anasarca* is the scientific name for excess edema—accumulation of fluid in the



body. Anasarca can afflict humans, as well as adult dogs, but the involvement in prenatal canines is unique. One puppy in the litter might be affected, perhaps two out of three, but rarely the whole litter. Some puppies will exhibit total swelling of the body, while others might have only a severely swollen head. Moderately- to severely-afflicted puppies will not survive. Excess fluid impairs heart and lung function. All breeds seem to have the condition, but for unknown reasons, brachycephalic breeds seem to be more prone to the condition, with Bulldogs, Boston Terriers,

French Bulldogs, and Pugs reporting a higher incidence. Researchers believe a polygenetic factor can be involved in transmission but acknowledge the answer is not that simple.

While there could be genetic predisposition, with parents transmitting to offspring, researchers have observed environmental influence and mutations resulting in anasarca during fetal development.

Viruses are a key culprit as a non-genetic cause of prenatal anasarca, especially if the bitch is exposed between days 20 and 35 of pregnancy. Infectious hepatitis caused by

Adenovirus Type 1 has been proved to cause fetal anasarca. The virus damages the walls of the blood and lymph vessels in the fetus and the placenta, causing leakage. Vaccinations including Adenovirus Type 2 will cross-protect against Type 1.

Canine Parvovirus Type 1 (CPV-1) has been proved to cause anasarca if the dam is exposed during mid-pregnancy. The virus is widespread within the canine population and can also cause abortion and puppy deaths. Unfortunately, the vaccines commonly used against canine parvovirus are not effective against CPV-1. The best protection is sanitation and segregation.

Aspirin can cause deformities in developing puppies if administered to the dam during days 23–30 of pregnancy. Corticosteroids are another risk that can cause vascular problems as early as day 14 of pregnancy. Low sodium is one suspect in the occurrence of prenatal anasarca—the opposite of what happens with adults, when high sodium causes water retention. It is recognized that diets deficient in sodium can cause reproductive problems ranging from infertility to abortion.

Other risk factors are related to the overall health of the dam—anemia, cardiac function, low blood protein, vasculitis, and more—but all are within the purview of the breeder in managing the dam's suitability for breeding.

NON-SPORTING GROUP

The bitch described at the beginning of this article, along with some kennelmates, experienced mild viral symptoms lasting less than 24 hours at day 30 of her pregnancy. That incident might have been more consequential than believed at the time.

Ultrasound examinations done after day 50 can detect anasarca if read properly, allowing a scheduled Caesarian.

While anasarca is a low risk in this breed, it does happen, and knowing its possible causes and detection helps us be better prepared as breeders.

—Cassandra de la Rosa,
dircas@msn.com

[The American Lhasa Apso Club](#)

Shiba Inu

THE BREEDER'S RESPONSIBILITY

The National Shiba Club of America, NSCA, the parent club for the Shiba, lists criteria members must meet to be included in the club's breeder directory. Breeders must also sign and agree to follow the Responsible Breeder Guidelines compiled by the club's Breeder Directory and Education Program (BDEP). All this information is on the [NSCA website](#), along with links to extensive information about the breed and how to find a responsible breeder.



Shiba Inu

Lynda Beam

Unfortunately prospective puppy buyers seldom read this information—and if they are fortunate enough to make it to the NSCA website, they go straight to the Breeder Directory. The internet is the first place prospective puppy buyers go to when looking for a new companion. There, they are bombarded with attractive puppy-broking websites and those of irresponsible breeders offering instant gratification by shipping them adorable puppies immediately. If they encounter the Breeder Directory on the NSCA website, they find that most breeders listed there do not have puppies available, are reluctant to ship, and usually have a long waiting list. Demand far exceeds supply from responsible Shiba breeders, and impatient buyers soon return to the less desirable alternative. That is where the “education” portion of the Breeder Directory and Education Program comes into play.

Item number 17 of the Guidelines says: “[I promise] to the best of my ability, return emails and telephone calls to those inquiring about available Shibas and requesting information about the breed or NSCA.”

This does not mean a 10-second phone call or e-mail saying, “Sorry, I don’t have any puppies now.” It is the perfect opportunity for “education.” Yes, this is time consuming, but even a canned response with attachments

COURTESY LYNDA BEAM

NON-SPORTING GROUP

taken from the NSCA website on the breed, how to choose a breeder, and direct links to other information go a long way to steering people in the right direction. Links to show superintendents for upcoming dog shows and other breeders who may have puppies are also helpful. Lengthy phone conversations can be redirected by requesting that the caller e-mail for additional information. Canned responses may occasionally be tweaked to keep them timely or address a special request. Most people who have time to spend on Facebook also have time to “educate.”

The ideal way to interact with interested parties is to invite them into the home to see the dogs in that environment and ensure the breed is right for them. This is best done when there are no puppies around, as the cuteness factor may overcome a person’s reluctance to have a dog who runs away from a house covered in Shiba fur, and a bad decision may be made regarding whether the breed will realistically fit their lifestyle. After seeing quality dogs in the optimum settings, sensible buyers will be much more inclined to be patient and wait for a well-bred puppy.

For the majority of breeders, inviting people into the home or kennel is an inconvenience, not impossible. Beyond breeding healthy, sound, loving dogs, a breeder’s greatest obligation to the breed is getting good dogs into lov-

ing, forever homes. Although public education through benched shows, Meet the Breeds, and similar venues is valuable, it does not have the effect of one-on-one communication, whether written, spoken, or in person. Individual interaction with people is the way all Shiba breeders can do the best for the breed they love.

—Jacey Holden, 2016

[National Shiba Club of America](#)

Tibetan Spaniels

COVID-19 AND SPECIALTIES

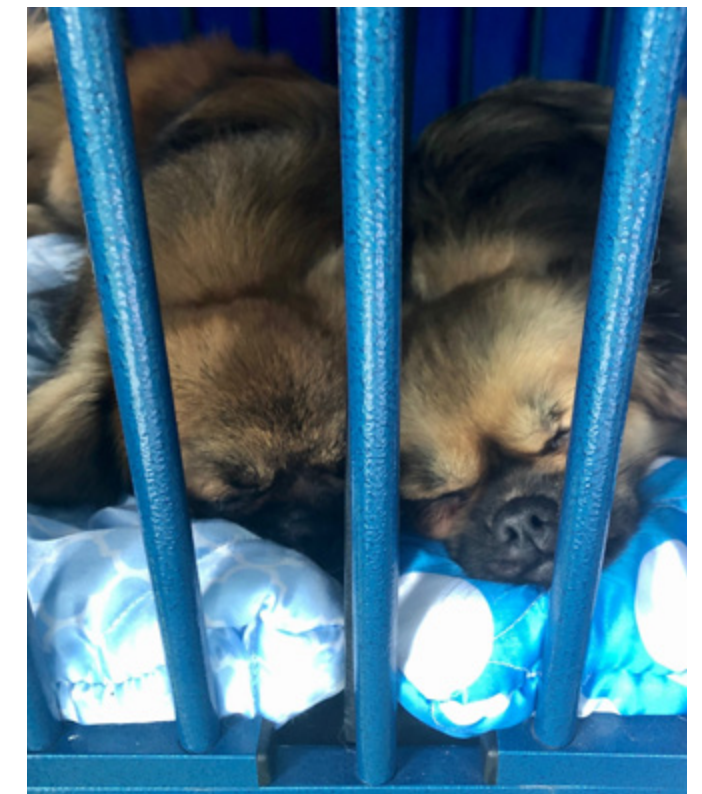
With the Tibetan Spaniel Club of America national specialty planned for last March being cancelled because of COVID-19, many exhibitors missed seeing their friends and having the opportunity to show their Tibbies.

Finally, this fall, two regional specialty clubs were able to pull off a weekend of shows that gave us some hope that our shows would finally be back.

The Potomac Valley Tibetan Spaniel Club and the Finger Lakes Tibetan Spaniel Association joined for a specialty weekend, with four shows in two days. The event chairs, Mary Novocin for PVTSC and Colleen Chaffee for FLTSA, piloted these shows to success. The site for the shows was a beautiful site in Chambersburg, Pennsylvania. Social



Despite COVID-era challenges, two Tibetan Spaniel specialty clubs were able to safely hold a weekend of shows.



distancing and mask-wearing were required, in addition to temperature checks for everyone upon entering the grounds. The clubs had auctions of Tibbie items to raise funds for both clubs, and another auction for the Tibetan Spaniel Health and Rescue Trust.

The entry was a bit different at the shows, but considering the circumstances, a nice entry of 49 was the high mark. Concerns that the Tibetan Spaniels would not like the masks turned out to not be an issue for the dogs. They all took it in stride. Typical Tibbies, they’d just as soon not have had their bite checked—but masks, no big deal. The puppies showed very well, considering they had not had a chance to really be out to ring-train.

The show grounds were lovely, with plenty of shade for exhibitors to park their vehicles.

Each area was large enough for a pop-up tent and your vehicle, and distanced so that you could take off your mask in that area. Lunch was provided both days and gave friends a chance to catch up with each other.

Thank you so much to these regional clubs for taking this chance and hosting these shows. Plans are now underway for next year, and consideration of having a national specialty with the regionals. I believe the AKC will have to be more flexible with some restrictions regarding travel and shows. The Tibetan Spaniel Club of America will also have to

COURTESY MALLORY COSBY DRISKILL

NON-SPORTING GROUP

bend to maybe some changes on when and how specialties happen. Things are changing with the times, and COVID has been such a challenge to all. I hope to see a brighter future for 2021!

Happy holidays to all, and I am so looking forward to a new year!

—Mallory Cosby Driskill,
ambrier@aol.com

[Tibetan Spaniel Club of America](#)

Tibetan Terriers

EMBRACING THE SOUL OF A TIBETAN TERRIER

After writing my first Tibetan Terrier column, I was musing on what to write about next. Then I saw a post pop up on the Tibetan Terrier Training and Behavior Facebook group, in which the owner of a 15-month-old neutered male TT expressed that they were at their wit's end with their dog's behavior. She had asked their local vet to recommend an easygoing family dog and was told to get a TT—that this was an amazing breed. She felt like she had been lied to and in fact, TTs are not an easygoing breed. As a result of all this, her marriage was at a breaking point. She talked about her dog's bad behavior on walks and problems with aggression, barking, dominance, and jumping, and his trying to bite



A 9-year-old female Tibetan Terrier fostered by the author. Fostering a dog who has been through difficult times can lead to a truly deep relationship.

her husband. As I read all of this, it made me feel really sad.

Having had the experience ourselves of fostering a 9-year-old female TT who had been surrendered to a local shelter for euthanasia, this story resonated all too well with me. The TT was surrendered because of aggression,

having tried to bite her current owner. I won't go into the reasons why she attempted to bite, but suffice to say that it was clear to see that this was a traumatized, nervous dog, already on her second owner. We fostered and loved this lady for about three months, and through the seasoned efforts of our TT

rescue organization, she was successfully placed in her new forever home.

This particular Facebook post had resulted in many comments, with owners describing a disturbing variety of situations including separation anxiety, with mass destruction and defecation everywhere. One suggestion

NON-SPORTING GROUP

offered was that perhaps the breeder had not done a good job in matching the right dog with the family.

Having lived with TTs for some years now, I would venture to define some aspects of the breed's character with "the three S's": *smart*, *sensitive*, and *stubborn*. Every TT has a different personality. Some are loving and sweet, some standoffish; others are lively and full of energy, while some prefer to be couch potatoes. There is no disputing that barking is a common theme—after all, their original purpose of serving as watchdogs at the monasteries in Tibet and for nomadic families is still in their genes. Another important aspect of TTs is that they do not do well being left alone for long hours. Much like young children, they love to be with their human parents, whether it's lying at your feet under your desk as you work or going out on excursions with you.

One lady offered this advice from her Swedish Kennel Club site: "Tibetan Terriers need to be trained with positive reinforcement methods and consistency. Harsh and 'old school' degrees of violence/dominance training methods can make the TT very difficult to handle."

So how best to turn around a situation of aggression and dominance and avoid the sad scenario of a TT being surrendered at

a shelter? Consider the first S—*smart*. TTs are incredibly intelligent, and if you let them, they can easily get the better of you. Engaging your TT with some interesting interactive play and tasks will result in them knowing their limits, and their brains will be well occupied. For the second S—*sensitivity*—TTs will always want to please you, and if you chastise them unfairly or too sternly, this could lead to fear-based aggression. Always be gentle, fair, and firm with them. Last but not least: *stubborn*. This brings to mind one of my favorite adjectives, *pertinacious*, meaning "stubbornly tenacious." Many TT owners will feel this description resonates! Rather consider your dog to be an independent thinker who needs to see a logical reason for why you want them to do something.

Should you be fortunate enough to rescue and foster a TT, know that this is a truly deep relationship. Our foster female would lie with her paws crossed at the entrance to the kitchen, watching me all the time. When our gaze met, the love that was in her eyes was such I have never experienced receiving before by any sentient being, either two-legged or four. The soul of a TT is truly special.

—Sonam Kushner,
sonamkushner@gmail.com
Tibetan Terrier Club of America

HERDING GROUP

Australian Cattle Dogs KINDNESS AND MENTORING

As a newish columnist to the GAZETTE, I'm trying to imagine a topic Australian Cattle Dog fanciers or future owners might like to think about. If you have an idea you'd like to see explored, please drop me a note.

What comes to mind currently is the impatience and discourtesy I am witnessing in our sport. While you might already be thinking, "I just wanted to read about ACDs," we are going there.

Those of us who have been showing, protecting, and breeding Australian Cattle Dogs are, in general, a tough lot. We are very much like the breed we cherish: very smart, boundary loving, and willing to work all day for what we see as important. Cue the standard: a "working dog with the ability and willingness to carry out his allotted task however arduous"—whose prime function is to control.

Hmm, taken out of context? I don't think so. We, the people of purebred dogs, must moderate our behavior to each other. While we compete in many types of dog sports, consider leaving the competition in the ring or field or course. It is not your calling to control others of our breed but to nurture and mentor our mutual love of Australian Cattle Dogs. We are not better without each other.

Maybe part of what attracts us to this amaz-

ing, athletic, and incredibly smart canine partner is that powerful and unapologetic temperament. You know, the one that is willing to tell a herd of 150-pound ewes or a bull with his girls where to go, and to go now. Cue the standard: The dog's prime function, in which he has no peer, is the control and movement of cattle in both wide-open and confined spaces. Hmm, *control* seems to be mentioned as often as *moderate* and *strong*.

Because the world has offered us lots of ways to communicate (both wide and confined), I think we need to moderate or refrain from allowing frustrations in our personal world to strike out at fellow Australian Cattle Dog people. We love a great dog. When in the right home, enhanced with good health testing from the breeders and proper socialization, the standard again helps us see what we need.

Our eyes need to express alertness and intelligence.

We should keep our head in balance.

Our neck should blend into our body, not in other people's business.

We should have a strong base and show flexibility in an ever-changing world.

Our back should be strong, and our chest deep to carry a kind heart.

We should be strongly coupled to the success of preserving our breed.

Our actions should be true and supple.

We have a coat of many colors.

HERDING GROUP

To draw a few phrases from the “Temperament” section of the breed standard: While “suspicious of strangers”—such as novice owners and new breeders—we “must be amenable” to growth, mentoring opportunities, humor, and kindness in sharing the pleasure of the Australian Cattle Dog. Can you see somewhere in these words the depth and breadth of this breed we are so passionate in preserving? If some of these remarks sound intimidating, they are meant for you to feel the effect living with an Australian Cattle Dog will have on your life. You will meet people who require you to be the best of yourself. You will have an unwavering friend at your side and join a community of invested owners who understand the reason why we have purpose-bred dogs.

Unlimited opportunities for learning a new sport, training, and people skills will be advanced with your amazing Australian Cattle Dog at your side.

—Gaye Lynn Todd, Littleflock Australian Cattle Dogs Littleflock@comcast.net
[Australian Cattle Dog Club of America](#)

Bearded Collies

PAGES FROM THE PAST

Will your kids hate you after you’ve gone? An article in the AARP maga-

zine suggested your children might not think kindly of you after you’ve tripped over the Rainbow Bridge if you leave them with a helacious mess of odds and ends. That worries me. I’ll readily admit I’m a packrat. And I hate to think of saddling my son with my copious collection of collectibles.

Most numerous of all the items I’ve saved are the books and canine magazines. Looking around, I’m faced with five overflowing bookcases. And that’s just in my bedroom. There are four more in my den, and a few others here and there.

It seemed like the best place to start was with the magazines, some of which date back to the 1970s. In the midst of purging the collection, I happened upon a long-forgotten assortment of *The Bearded Collie* magazine. Published from February 1978 through January 1982, the independent publication was published by Joan Surber, of Woodside, California. Later issues listed California Beardie enthusiasts Mary Edner and Cathi Cline as co-editors. In a 5½-by-8½-inch format, this magazine usually averaged about 50 pages and was published bimonthly.

At that time, the only other Beardie publication in the U.S. was the BCCA’s *Beardie Bulletin*, so owners of the breed welcomed more reading material about our furry friends. Somewhat surprising was the fact so many

enthusiasts supported *The Bearded Collie* with ads and by contributing articles. The first edition featured Am./Can. Ch. Brambledale Blue Bonnet, CD, on the cover and started off with an article about Beardie great Ch. Osmart Bonnie Blue Braid contributed by Jennie Osborne, his breeder. Believe it not, nobody wanted him as a pup. They claimed he was untypical. Wondering what to do with him, Jennie decided to give him to her daughter, Catherine, as a birthday present—but first she wanted to take a chance and show him. The rest is history.

Other articles included: “Finishing Your First Beardie Champion,” by Anne Dolan; “Where Do We Go From Here?” by Barbara Roark; “The Old Type Beardie,” by Pat Kaub; “The Behavin’ Beardie,” by Catherine Cline; “My First Show Dog,” by Lorella Warren; “Carousel of Colors,” by Carol Lang; “Notes From Australia,” by Keith Higgins; “The Breeder’s Edge,” by Barbara Reieseberg; “Hip Dysplasia,” by Ruth Tompkins; “The British Show Scene,” by Joyce Collis; and “News From Canada,” by Carol Gold. Obviously plenty to read, on a variety of subjects.

Looking at many of the ads, it appears that both grooming the Beardie and the art of photographing them had a long way to go at that stage.

Thumbing through following issues, lots of noteworthy items appeared: an ad for Ha’Penny Moon Shadow taking Best of Breed from the puppy class over specials at the Hunterdon Hills Kennel Club—the start of an illustrious career. That same issue, November 1981, featured on the cover Moon Shadow’s sire, Eng./Am. Ch. Chauntelle Limelight, while the results of the national specialty listed Limelight as BOS to Blue Blossom, his dam. (Fun fact: Dick Schneider, importer of Limelight, also hosted a visit for his breeder and suggested her to the Bearded Collie Club of Canada as the sweepstakes judge for its specialty. At a speech and Q & A session after the sweeps, the breeder admitted she didn’t really know much about the breed, since Limelight came from the first litter she ever bred.)

The September 1981 issue relates the amazing story of Molly, a Beardie who was frightened by fireworks on the Fourth of July and disappeared for two months. On September 4, a telephone repairman called to a house across the street from Molly’s home. Crawling under the house, he found Molly, her leash tightly wound around some pipes. She had been without food or water for two months but somehow the moisture from the flooring and pipes near her had been enough to keep her alive. She was cut loose and taken to a veterinarian to be rehydrated. It wasn’t long

HERDING GROUP

before she bounced back to being her happy self again. Such stamina!

The April 1978 issue listed a thought-provoking article that delved into the problem of fading pigmentation. A 1980 edition celebrated the accomplishments of Ch./OTCH Windcache A Briery Bess, UD, the first breed and obedience champion in the history of the breed, with help from her owner Barbara Prescott. And in the June 1978 issue, breed pioneer Carol Gold explained the inheritance of Beardie coat color in a clear and concise fashion.

In June 1981, famed judge Tom Horner warned against over-angulation with the words, “The earliest stock breeders learned to their cost that a desirable quality exaggerated beyond utility becomes a fault.” And in an issue that does not have a date listed anywhere, J. Richard Schneider supplied some Murphy’s Laws as applied to Beardies. A few are: *Genes carrying faults tend to be dominant. In any given litter, the tendency toward hip dysplasia will be greatest among the most attractive pups. The possibility of rain the day before a dog show is 100 percent. The judge will only ask you to move your dog coincident with large bursts of applause from the Afghan ring.*

So there you have it. Lots of fun reading from days long past. I really hate to trash them. Maybe that’s why I’m a packrat. Maybe I can find them a good home.

—Alice Bixler,
alice@bedlamkennels.com
Bearded Collie Club of America

Belgian Malinois

ALL THAT RAGTIME JAZZ

Sometimes you’re just minding your own business, watching the Westminster Kennel Club Show broadcast, when you hear an interview that makes your hand and jaw muscles go slack. You drop your fork in the very act of conveying a bite of delicious chocolate cake to your mouth, and you think you hear the sound of coffee being splurged from incredulous mouths all across the country.

Reporter: “Are they good family dogs?”

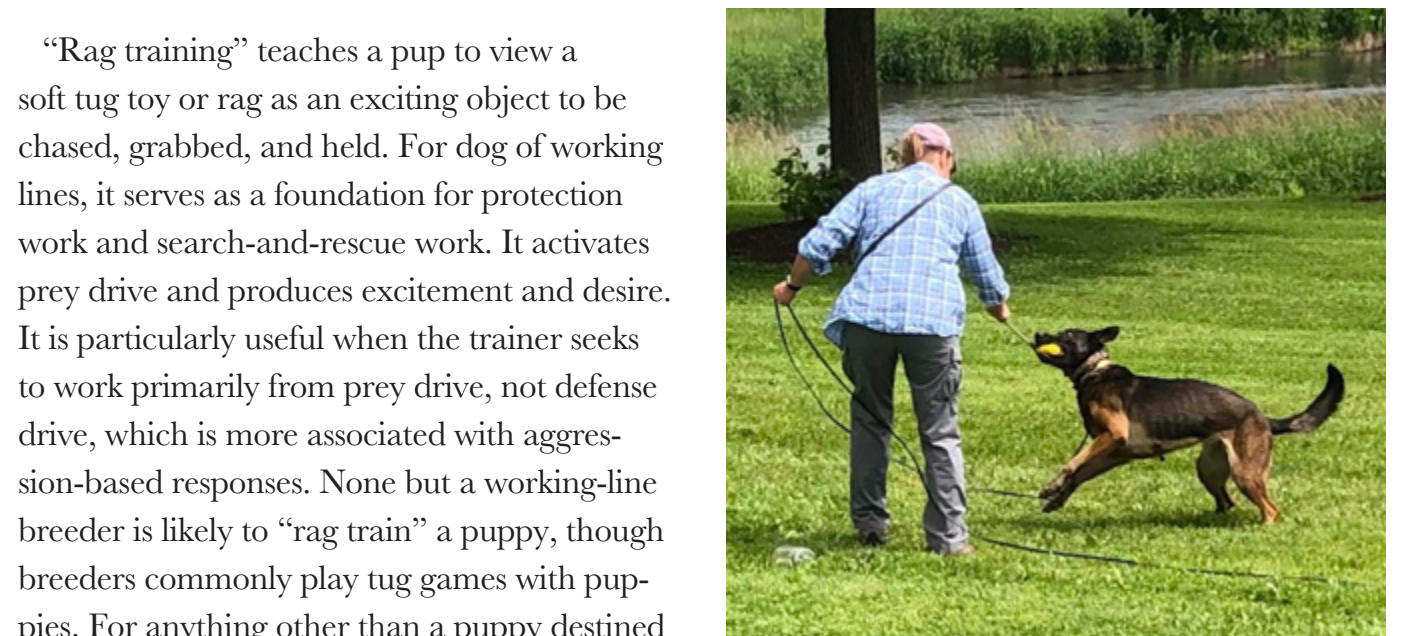
Malinois breeder: “Mine are. Not all of the ones that are bred by everybody are. A lot of the ones, the people, they rag train them at a real young age, and it makes them too aggressive—we don’t do that. So a lot of our dogs are used in agility and obedience and you don’t want them aggressive, and we don’t want them dog-aggressive at all.”

Right. Nobody wants a Malinois for *any* sport that shows inappropriate aggression.

But “rag training *makes* them aggressive”? That’s like saying, “Smoking a Cuban cigar will turn you Communist.” I guess it could happen, but is that the most likely outcome?



A certified SAR Malinois follows the rules while biting the pillow. Below: Teaching your dog to tug with a clear set of rules can be very rewarding for both you and your dog.



“Rag training” teaches a pup to view a soft tug toy or rag as an exciting object to be chased, grabbed, and held. For dog of working lines, it serves as a foundation for protection work and search-and-rescue work. It activates prey drive and produces excitement and desire. It is particularly useful when the trainer seeks to work primarily from prey drive, not defense drive, which is more associated with aggression-based responses. None but a working-line breeder is likely to “rag train” a puppy, though breeders commonly play tug games with puppies. For anything other than a puppy destined

COURTESY DAWN KUNDERT

HERDING GROUP

for protection training, “rag training” can simply be thought of as “tugging.”

And there is a school of thought that “tugging makes your dog mean.” Except it doesn’t.

Teaching your dog to tug with a clear set of rules can be very rewarding for both you and your dog. The fun of tugging is then balanced with impulse control. If you tug with your Malinois and there are no rules, it is highly likely that your hand will end up in his mouth. The dog may not be clear that the game is *tug-the-object*, not *tug-the-hand*. Likewise, he may not know that it is *tug-and-release*, not *possess-the-object*. This lack of structure in the game can lead to the dog targeting your hand when you try to grasp the toy, or refusing to relinquish the object when asked, guarding it instead.

Learning to tug with rules is one aspect of teaching your dog to listen to you even when he is highly aroused. Tug toys are not the only source of arousal in the life of a Malinois, and it is smart to teach your Malinois to still obey when he is excited. A proper game of tug can help teach this skill. If a dog is truly aggressive toward humans or dogs, he will eventually show that aggression in response to some other trigger, whether or not he has ever been allowed to play tug. But an otherwise normal, stable dog who has been taught the rules of the game and observes them is not going to act aggressive simply because he knows how to tug.

Here are some principles for a good game of tug:

1. Form good habits early. Puppies want to know the rules.
2. The game starts and ends when you say so. The dog may only grab the toy when you give the signal.
3. If the dog gets too rough or mouthy, the game ends.
4. Your dog must release the toy when asked.

Detailed information on how to teach the rules of tug play is widely available on the internet, in online training classes, and from knowledgeable in-person trainers. Educate yourself and teach your dog the ground rules. Then, if you and your normal, stable dog want to play tug, have a blast!

—Carilee (Cole) Moran,
colemich@sbcglobal.net
[American Belgian Malinois Club](#)

Belgian Sheepdogs

WHERE ARE THE RESCUES?

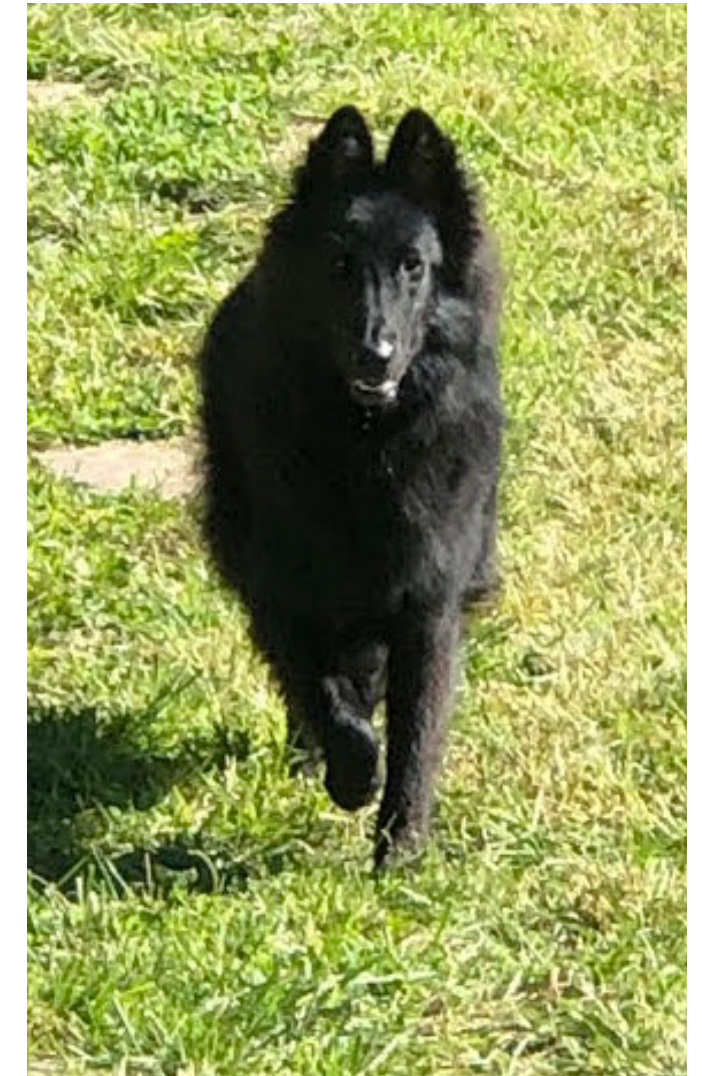
In September of 2020, I began my term volunteering as the new Corresponding Secretary for the Belgian Sheepdog Club of America. The emails I most commonly receive are from people looking for puppies. I routinely refer potential homes to club mem-

bers from the BSCA Breeders Directory. Interestingly, one day I received an inquiry looking for a rescue or an older available re-home Belgian looking for its new forever home. To both my surprise and happiness, I informed the person inquiring that at the current time, no breeders had re-homes available, and The Belgian Sheepdog Rescue Trust currently had no available dogs. That got me to thinking: Are we just lucky, or are we doing something right?

The AKC breed standard for the Belgian Sheepdog says the following, under “Temperament”:

“The Belgian Sheepdog should reflect the qualities of intelligence, courage, alertness, and devotion to master. To his inherent aptitude as a guardian of flocks should be added protectiveness of the person and property of his master. He should be watchful, attentive, and always in motion when not under command. In his relationship with humans he should be observant and vigilant with strangers, but not apprehensive. He should not show fear or shyness. He should not show viciousness by unwarranted or unprovoked attack. With those he knows well, he is most affectionate and friendly, zealous of their attention, and very possessive. Viciousness is a disqualification.”

If you remember your first inquiry with most



The Belgian Sheepdog is a smart, intuitive dog who thrives on mental enrichment and consistency in his environment.

Belgian breeders, one will be apt to tell you the interview process is typically in depth. The Belgian community is tight knit. Word of any Belgian needing any help typically reaches rescue and the breeder identified within a matter

COURTESY SUSAN REED DAVIS

HERDING GROUP

of hours. Social media has been instrumental in this success, as fanciers and breeders alike can communicate coast-to-coast in real time, working with shelters to identify if a dog in question is indeed a Belgian Sheepdog. The Belgian Sheepdog Rescue Trust when called upon has worked tirelessly with all parties to get the Belgian in good and safe care.

As an owner, my responsibility was to keep in touch with my breeder(s) as to the overall health and wellbeing of the dogs they had entrusted me with. In the last year I became a breeder myself and learned that it means a lot more than having a contract that people sign. My commitment is to all seven puppies who were the result of my breeding for their entire lives. Any dog I produced can always come back, if necessary, at any point in its life. That is what I as a breeder signed up for.

It is important to remember when looking at the breed that a Belgian Sheepdog is a smart, intuitive dog who thrives on both mental enrichment and consistency in his environment. Herding, obedience classes, therapy dog training, and performance training are all things we know are tried and proven venues for our Belgians to excel in.

We are in a pandemic, and socializing a Belgian has never been proven more difficult, yet many breeders and owners are getting the job done with great success. Many Belgians

have earned new titles in AKC during this pandemic—from herding titles to new conformation championships.

As the holiday season is here and the infamous year of 2020 nears its end, it seems like a wonderful time to reach out and say thank you to our wonderful Belgian community. Without you, our number in rescue would not currently be zero. Without you, breeders would not be breeding, and new generations would not be going off to their forever homes. It takes a village, and we are always stronger together. Stay safe, friends.

—Susan Reed Davis,
sreedsreed@gmail.com
Belgian Sheepdog Club of America

Briards

DOG PEOPLE

“How do you do it?” my mom asked. “No matter where we go, you always find someone with whom to talk dogs.” This query followed an excursion many years ago to an outlet mall that featured many high-end, name-brand stores. My mother, another Briard owner, and I had invaded a shop with designer label outfits. We were happily pulling gorgeous suits and dresses off the racks and wondering if they’d qualify as show outfits. “Look at this,” said the friend. “It looks like



Briard

something Michelle Billings would wear!”

“Michelle Billings?” chimed in the saleslady who had been hovering nearby. “Isn’t she just the greatest judge? I always show my Poodles to her whenever I can.” And there followed a conversation about shows, judges, dogs (of

course), and related topics.

How do dog people always seem to gravitate to other dog people? It’s a knack. And maybe there are little hints that give us away to each other. Like the time I was checking out my purchases at a store, and the clerk behind the

MARY BLOOM ©AKC

HERDING GROUP

counter put down her pen, which promptly started to roll away. With lightning reflexes, she caught it, placed it firmly on the counter, and commanded, “Sit! Stay!”

“Obviously a dog person,” I observed. “Right on,” she replied. “I work my Rottie in obedience.”

Then there was a time when a lady phoned the office where I was working to try to intercept an architect who was on his way there. “Has Bill Price from PRA Architects arrived there yet,” she asked. “Don’t you mean JRA Architects?” I asked. An embarrassing laugh came from the phone, and she said, “Yes, I do. It was just a Freudian slip.” PRA twigged my mind. “You wouldn’t happen to be a dog person, would you?”

“Well, yes, I have Rough Collies—and I guess you know what was on my mind.” I did.

Funny how you can pick a dog person out of the general populace at large—and it’s not because of the white hair on a black coat, or paw-prints on light-tan slacks, or slobber almost anywhere.

Perhaps I should explain that there’s a definite difference between a Dog Person and the common or garden-variety dog owner. A true Dog Person will cheerfully talk about tape-worms while eating spaghetti. A Dog Person will not buy an outfit unless it has pockets. A Dog Person will match you story for story

when you start to talk about your beloved Briard. A Dog Person will refer to a female dog as a bitch and not think a thing about it. A Dog Person will not just bathe their long-coated dog but will line-brush almost daily, condition the coat, use a \$40-a-bottle shampoo, and gently blow-dry the cherished locks. I could go on, but you get the idea.

By contrast, a dog owner will tell you they have a yellow retriever, or maybe a golden Lab, and that it’s a nice dog and good with the kids. But that’s about it.

Frequently, you can tell a Dog Person from a dog owner just by the way they pet a dog.

One time a really, really tall man came up to me at a show where I was accompanied by my friend’s Bullmastiff. The man was obviously in awe of the massive animal and asked me all about him. “He’s really something!” he said in reverent tones. So I asked if he’d like to pet him. He nodded enthusiastically, so I took Bones (who was once a scrawny pup) out of his crate. Bones plunked placidly by my side. Hesitantly, the man slowly lowered his quivering hand from above the dog’s broad head and gently touched the skull. When Bones raised his head to see what had descended on him from above, the poor man leaped back in fright. Definitely not a Dog Person!

Along with the friends you make and the lively conversations you have, there are other

advantages to being a Dog Person. While living in Canada, I happened to experience an unlikely advantage. I had stopped at a plaza to buy some dog food and then found my van refused to start. I phoned CAA (the Canadian version of AAA) and was directed to the number of their affiliated service station. I gave my card number, name, and location. There was a pause on the other end of the line. Then I was asked, “Are you the Alice Bixler who judged the Herding Group dogs at the sanctioned match at Shur Gain last month?”

“That’s me,” I admitted. Her words came in an enthusiastic rush. “I showed Rough Collies under you, and you gave my bitch Best of Breed, and Winners Dog to her son. I’ll have a truck there to get you going in 10 minutes ... or less.”

It helps to be a Dog Person.

—Alice Bixler,

alice@bedlamkennels.com

[Briard Club of America](#) [Briard Club of America](#)

Canaan Dogs

ALERT, ALERT! THE CANAAN DOG IS ON THE JOB

For thousands of years, the Canaan Dog was the sentry dog for nomadic peoples in the Middle East and later for those who set-

tled on farms, *kibbutzim*, or villages and towns. The harsh conditions of the desert honed the Canaan’s senses acutely, making them instantly reactive to anything unfamiliar or suspicious. This ancient trait of watchfulness has coined the more recent axiom, “Canaans not only guard your home, they also watch over your neighborhood.” To illustrate this point, one owner reported that when he installed new ceiling-to-floor windows in his home, his Canaan deliberately moved her bed next to them to comfortably watch and guard “her” street.

Canaan Dogs alert their owners to anything that they feel is amiss within their realm. Though the imagined threat may seem silly to someone not familiar to the breed, it is very real in the mind of the Canaan, and owners must treat it seriously.

One Canaan looking outside her living-room window began to bark frantically at a large, newly built snowman in a neighbor’s yard until the owners took her to see it; upon close inspection, the dog decided that it was not a threat. Another owner reported that her two Canaans would bark at the backyard’s potted palm trees upended by the wind until she righted the pots. Another owner said that her dogs alerted her to the presence of an unfamiliar piece of firewood in the house, and the log had to go outside. Canaans living in

HERDING GROUP

farm country have “protected” their owners by barking at hot air balloons, a piece of farm equipment that resembled a long-necked dinosaur, combines harvesting corn in adjacent fields, a red-tailed hawk sitting on the backyard fence, and kids riding horses next door and would continue the alarm until brought indoors by their owners.

Even what is familiar can become a threat in a Canaan’s mind if the circumstances change. One owner reported that her Canaan would happily greet a well-known contractor whenever he came through the front door, but one day he unexpectedly knocked on the back patio glass door, and the dog charged with bared teeth and raised hackles, daring him to enter. Another owner wrote that while living in a lower-level flat (apartment), the family Canaan growled when he heard footsteps going upstairs to the neighbors’ flat; the owner later found out the footsteps belonged to friends who were watching the neighbors’ flat for them, but to the dog they were strangers nonetheless.

Canaans will not attack anyone unless in defense of self, their puppies, or their owners (if the bond is strong enough, in the latter case). An owner reported that an intruder had broken into her home while she and her pre-teen daughter were inside, but her Canaans and two other family dogs cornered the man

in a bedroom until the two could escape and held the intruder until the police arrived. The owner of a young sub-adult Canaan was doing a final night walk around her apartment building when two men came out of the dark running at her. The Canaan lunged to the end of his leash, snapping at the men, causing them to veer away and run off; police later caught the two and charged them with armed robbery of a nearby store. In a similar situation, while at the hotel where she was staying for a show, an owner and her Canaan were out for a final walk before bedtime when a man approached; her dog growled at him and pulled her in a direction away from the stranger, back toward the hotel. She later learned that the man had attacked someone else.

Though Canaans are more inclined to alert their owners as if saying, “There is a problem here, you need to take care of it,” they will also take matters into their own paws if the situation warrants.

Thanks to the following owners for their anecdotes: John Relph, Laura Alton, Rebecca O’Donnell, Cathi Oskow, Denise Gordon, Norma and Tom Woolf, Carrie Franz-Cabrera, Ruth Burnham, Sally Armstrong, and David Pohl.

—Denise A. Gordon,
desertstarcanaans@yahoo.com
[Canaan Dog Club of America](#)

Cardigan Welsh Corgis

THOSE BEAUTIFUL CARDIGAN EARS

One of the very first hurdles a typical owner of any adorable Cardigan pup must clear is the sometimes-frustrating chore of getting those pesky ears to stand erect. In this day of innovation and resourcefulness, we still haven’t invented a foolproof system to get those perfect ears that clearly define our breed from many others.

A quick trip to the approved Cardigan standard reveals the following about ears:

“Ears large and prominent in proportion to size of dog. Slightly rounded at the tip, and of good strong leather. Moderately wide at the base, carried erect and sloping slightly forward when alert. When erect, tips are slightly wide of a straight line drawn from the tip of the nose through the center of the eye. Drop ears are a disqualification.”

So, clearly, the ears need to be erect for the Cardigan to be successful in the show ring. Watching the puppy classes can be a humorous endeavor as those 6-month-old ears flop about with each step. The older generation may recall a connection between slow-maturing puppy ears and the TV show *The Flying Nun*. (No doubt, we may have given away our age with that comment.)

Longtime breeders have been dealing with the ears in many ways, such as with large con-

traptions involving plastic milk-bottle corners, stuck on and heavily wrapped, and finished off with duct tape. Just don’t let them get wet, or bacteria can set in and you have a whole new, smelly problem. Cardboard tubes have also been used to hold the ears up.

It is time that the inventors among us step up the challenge and create a universal tool that will do the job. Attempts have been made using a fine-screen mesh and wide Velcro strips, designing a hard rubber cap that holds the ears within—you may laugh, but the different items used to get those ears to stay up are boundless. Let’s create an *ear think tank* and come up with a product that is simple, safe, and effective. No doubt, it could be used with other breeds with similar needs and could make the lucky inventor worth at least a little notoriety in the dog world.

The latest trick seen is the use of Breathe Rite nasal strips placed vertically along the outer edge of the ear. Actual experience with this technique proved somewhat successful. Shaving the hair at the proposed site and cleaning with alcohol allowed the strip to adhere to the skin. One particularly tough case required two strips in the ear and still needed a little taping to give the setup some longevity to take final hold. However, the good news is that it did work, although I think many of the listed modus operandi probably

HERDING GROUP



Cardigan Welsh Corgi: "The ears need to be erect for the Cardigan to be successful in the show ring."

gave reasonable results. A consideration is whether it seems uncomfortable for the dog. The strips seemed to stay in better if prepared at bedtime and no other pups could destroy them, but that is typical of any of the current trends. Again, that is why a more durable system that could be comfortably attached and will not be affected by massive gangland puppy play may be a better idea!

Let us know your system for a future update on this topic.

—David L. Anthony,
Dragonpatch@gmail.com
[Cardigan Welsh Corgi Club of America](#)

Collies

MEMORABILIA AS MEMORY

One inevitability of nearly a lifetime in dogs is the accumulation of “stuff.” If there is a spare bedroom or closet in the house, there’s also a good chance it’s filled with

dog-related materials. It probably spills out onto walls or bookcases. I know that nearly 50 years as a breeder, conformation and performance exhibitor, and trainer has more than packed the empty spaces of our house.

First you join your national club and begin to receive the magazine, *The Bulletin*. Then come the Yearbooks, the recorded history of our breed, but also containing personal memories too, wins documented, ads celebrating achievements. Other magazines arrive, *Collie Expressions* started in 1992, with every issue of mine arranged by year and decade. Or earlier magazines: *The Collie Review* or *Collie Cues*, saved to read on snowy winter nights or hours by the whelping box waiting for puppies.

Then there are the trophies and the ribbons. One old chest, a family inheritance, stuffed with rosettes and ribbons, or trophies lying askew, overflowing cardboard boxes. Statues collected over the years, and prints bought or won and sometimes framed, sometimes still rolled with the intention of future framing. The show catalogs, particularly the specialty show ones with the names of all the past and future champions you bred or showed, or pages torn from catalogs, kept as a reference on judges, what did he/she do with that dog? Sometimes written at the top who to return to—or not.

Books, representing an interest in a wide

range of topics: dog training, where theories on positive reinforcement replaced the older, more “military” style back in the day; herding, genetics, movement, breeding, health, behavior, and self-help—all there. Stacks of them on nearly every topic related to dogs. The complete set of the *Library of Champions*, a must-have for Collie history. More personal, more intimate are the folders of all the dogs now gone: their health records, pedigrees, registration papers, and even the armband stuck in a sleeve, saved when they finished their champion title. Those “lucky” numbers.

There are the photo albums—remember them? Back when we used to have to get prints of everything, we’d carry a little white envelope with a cover flap that held the 3 x 5 prints of litters or special dogs we wanted to share, plus a dozen or more photograph albums of puppies, show wins, certificates and more. Now that’s all replaced with squinting at something identified as a dog on a cell phone. And letters, sometimes with pictures, saved from owners, breeders, from people who became lifelong friends. All reflect a lifetime in dogs from competing in conformation, performance, herding, to breeding and eventually judging.

Prepping to paint the spare room, as I go through these closets and drawers I wonder what to do with all this stuff. A large,

HERDING GROUP



"The Collie" (print by Edwin Megargee)

oversized stuffed Collie stares unblinking at me, with no answer. I think to myself I'll donate some to the Collie Health Foundation or the Collie Rescue Foundation. Some folks sell it on eBay or Facebook, while some wait and leave it for others to deal with, until a death or a move forces the decisions to be made.

Memories, knowledge, experiences stacked on shelves, stuffed in drawers, put in a box and forgotten until it's time to clean it out.

Often I turn to these things when doing research, but mostly it continues to accumulate. I'll tackle it another day, I say, or move it from shelf to box. Or maybe I'll just go along with Dr. Seuss, who said, "Sometimes you never know the value of a moment until it becomes a memory."

—Marianne Sullivan, Charlottesville, Virginia

millknock@embarqmail.com
[Collie Club of America](#)

Finnish Lapphunds

Guest columnist Andrea Johnson, of Forest Trail Finnish Lapphunds, contributed the following for this column in 2014.

AN INTRODUCTION TO THE BREED

Future Finnish Lapphund owners are often curious about what to expect of their new family member. Lappies, as we call them, have a strong desire to please and as social, pack, animals they are extremely loyal to their family and do not wish to be without their family members. Lappies and children make fast friends, although as with any herding breed, you may need to teach them not to herd the children! They are also accepting of other pets in their household when properly introduced. However they may "alert" bark at strange people, animals or events. In most cases, with reasonable effort, undesired barking can be curtailed.

Lappies are an energetic breed, but given proper exercise, they make wonderful, calm housepets and companions. Their biddable nature makes training a Finnish Lapphund a rather rewarding venture. Finnish Lapphunds have tested well for herding instincts. However, their instincts for reindeer have yet to translate well to U.S. herding tests and trials that use cattle and sheep. That said, their intellect and adaptable manner enables

Lappies to excel in a wide variety of companion events including obedience, agility, tracking, and therapy dog work, and as dock and Frisbee dogs. Some have even been trained as upland-gamebird gundogs.

Lappies are a medium sized, generally healthy breed with average longevity of 12 to 15 years. While occurrences are low, hip and elbow dysplasia, PRA (a form of hereditary blindness), and juvenile cataracts are the main health concerns for the breed, and all breeding stock should be examined and cleared for these conditions prior to breeding.

Lappies were bred to live and work north of the Arctic Circle and have a dense, double coat in order to ensure their success in this harsh environment. Thorough brushing every week and regular baths every four to six weeks keeps their coat in excellent condition. Lappies lose their coat twice a year, with the largest loss in the summer. This helps them to withstand the summer heat.

Because it is never exactly hot in Lapland (summer highs are usually less than 75 degrees), Lappies are extremely heat intolerant. Strenuous outdoor activities should be halted or strongly considered above 80 degrees. Anyone in warmer regions must keep their dogs in climate-controlled environment during the warmer months.

Many find coat color to be the most fascinat-

Finnish Lapphund



ing aspect of the Finnish Lapphund. Because temperament and structure are considered by breeders to be most important, the Lappy coat spectrum has developed a broad range of color. Lappy puppies are usually born dark, and lighten in coloring as they mature. However, cream pups are born light and will tend to darken a bit with age.

The Finnish Lapphund is intelligent, versatile, willing and affectionate. It is very energetic, while remaining composed and adaptable. Their outstanding looks, good health, and great temperament make them a wonderful companion and great family member. —A.J.

[Finnish Lapphund Club of America](#)

Norwegian Buhunds

THE ORIGINS OF TODAY'S NORWEGIAN BUHUND

The Norwegian Buhund of today is a herder, a watchdog, and a companion dog; a versatile dog who has been bred to work and herd for hours at a time. The Buhund can be independent yet willing to please, energetic, eager to work, and playful.

What are the origins of today's Norwegian Buhund? This is an ancient breed, believed to have descended from Scandinavian spitz-type dogs. Most Buhund historians agree that

the ancestors of today's Norwegian Buhund can be found in the ninth-century Norwegian graves excavated at Oseberg and Gokstad. The excavations revealed the remains of spitz-type dogs with erect ears and pointed muzzles that are thought to have resulted in today's Norwegian Buhund.

In early years, the spitz-type dogs of Norway lived and traveled with people who were hunter-gatherers. At that time, the dogs helped in the hunt and acted as watchdogs, warning humans of approaching peril. By the year 1000, most Norwegians were settled on farms, with dogs helping herd the livestock. Reports suggest that at one time the Norwegian Buhund was used to herd a range of livestock including sheep, goats, cattle, and reindeer. The dogs also helped farmers watch over the livestock by barking at hawks and other predators, thus warning of danger. Today's Norwegian Buhund still has the herding instinct, as well as the tendency to bark and warn of danger.

In Norway, the tradition was for farmers to send livestock to summer pasture in a place away from the farm, usually in the mountains. This place, called a "summer dairy," had small dwellings for one or two people and animals. Some farms had two summer pasture locations, with the livestock first taken to a place at a lower elevation and then, when

HERDING GROUP

the snow melted in the mountains, to a higher elevation. Farm dogs such as the Norwegian Buhund played a critical role in gathering and moving the livestock during this long and difficult journey to the summer dairy. The dogs would spend the entire day moving the livestock, often ending up with torn and bleeding pads from the rough terrain of the Norwegian mountains. The entire season was spent at the summer pasture with the livestock until it was time to return home, at which time the journey would be repeated in reverse. Hence, the ancestors of today's Norwegian Buhund could work for hours at a time independent of humans. Even today, the Norwegian Buhund is a very energetic dog who needs work and vigorous exercise and can work independently for hours on end.

In the early part of the 20th century, the Norwegian Buhund was considered to be a mere “farmer’s dog” and was in danger of being crossbred with more recent breeds. The breed might not have survived were it not for Jon Saeland, a sheep/goat specialist who saw the importance of maintaining a Norwegian herding dog. Through his efforts, the first Norwegian Buhund breed show was held in 1925 in Jaeren, followed by the official breed standard in 1926 and the formation of the Norsk Buhundklubb in 1939. The breed standard included both wheaten and

black colors for the Buhund. However, even though wheaten is a more prevalent color in today's Norwegian Buhund, it is believed that its ancestors were more likely to be black in color.

The Norwegian Buhund was exported to the U.S. in the 1970s. Aud-Marie Ferstad Maroni, one of the first Buhund breeders in America, started the Norwegian Buhund Club of America to make sure that the breed succeeded and thrived here. The club was an informal one until Jan Barringer took over as president. She organized the first annual NBCA specialty in 1990, in Roanoke, Virginia, and started the process of getting the Norwegian Buhund recognized by the AKC. Thanks to her efforts and those of many others in the club, the Norwegian Buhund was recognized by the AKC in 2009.

—Jasmine Tata,
Jtata2@yahoo.com
[Norwegian Buhund Club of America](#)

Old English Sheepdogs

WHEN YOU WANT TO GIVE

As the end of the year and the holidays approach, many of us may recall the axiom “It is better to give than to receive.” This is when we start to think about our year-end donations, charitable or otherwise. As a

sheepdog owner, if you choose to donate to animal support organizations, you will hopefully give first thought to our own breed.

For direct support to the Old English Sheepdog, there are just three choices. One is to donate directly to the Old English Sheepdog Club of America (OESCA). If you opt for this route you can send a check to the club treasurer and designate (1) Rescue, (2) Health and Research, or (3) General Fund. Although the OESCA is incorporated as a nonprofit entity, it does not have 501(c)3 status with the IRS. Thus, your donation will not be tax deductible. However, the other two choices do provide tax-deductible opportunities. One of these is the Old English Sheepdog Rescue of Southern California. For those of us here in California, this is a good choice. With the demise of the Northern League in late 2019, the SoCal group is the only OES rescue organization left in the state. The other option is to donate to the AKC Canine Health Foundation OES Donor Advised Group. You can do this by sending the OESCA treasurer a check made out to AKC/CHF Old English Sheepdog Donor Advised Fund.

If you wish to support other dog-related charities, there are many possibilities with vivid photos and sad stories vying for your attention and your dollars. Your first decision may be whether to support a large, national

group like the ASPCA or some local organization right in your immediate area. Either way, you have the problem of sorting through all the hype to find one that will do the most good with your donation.

For larger organizations, a good place to start is the Better Business Bureau. In case you were unaware of it, the BBB evaluates charities as well as businesses. When a charity asks to be evaluated, the BBB applies a 20-point set of screening criteria. These cover four main areas: governance and oversight; measures of effectiveness; finances; and solicitations and informational materials. You can go to www.give.org/donor-landing-page/bbb-standards-for-charity-accountability and insert the name of any charity and find out if it has been evaluated and if so, see its ranking.

The next thing you will want to check is the tax status of the organization(s) you are considering. Is it a nonprofit entity?—and if so, does it have 501(c)3 status with the IRS? If the latter answer is yes, it is considered a charity, and donations to it are tax exempt. Having gone through two 501(c)3 applications with agricultural associations, I can tell you that the IRS does a very thorough job of evaluating each application. Thus, having 501(c)3 status is a good indication of worthiness. However, you also need to read the fine print, as there is another class of donor-supported nonprofits

HERDING GROUP

that use their funds to promote a particular political agenda, such as banning assault weapons. These are considered political action committees, or PACs, and your donation to these is not tax deductible.

Finally, even a 501(c)3 organization can be a “bad apple.” In trying to find a retirement sanctuary for an elderly ewe from a charter school program, the first organization I looked at proved to be something of a scam. The owner was using his tax-exempt status primarily to keep his property off the county tax rolls.

If you are happy with the BBB and/or tax status, what other criteria might you want to check before opening your wallet? Particularly if the rescue or support group is a local one, you will likely want to cover some or all the following:

- Determine if the group is responsive to questions about its administrative procedures and income and expenses.
- Ask to see the group’s contract/adoption agreement.
- Inquire about the group’s post-adoption support and follow-up.
- Ask if the rescued dogs are temperament tested and if so, how this is done.
- Make an effort to confirm that the health and wellbeing of the rescued dogs is a top priority.
- Ask how potential adopters are screened

and matched with an appropriate dog.

- Inquire if there is any screening process for the group’s volunteers.
- Follow the group’s social media platforms and check for reviews on the internet.

Hopefully following these suggestions will lead you to a top rescue or support group, one that you will be proud to support with your donation.

—Joe Schlitt,
wylecotejs@earthlink.net
Old English Sheepdog Club of America

Pembroke Welsh Corgis

PEMBROKES 101

The 2019 AKC registration statistics showed that the Pembroke Welsh Corgi has risen to number 10. It’s been said that whereas this breed is very family- and child-oriented, it is also not always a good choice for the first-time dog owner. The Pembroke is a herding breed who needs regular physical and mental exercise, and people sometimes find out too late that its herding heritage remains strong. I asked seven long-time owner-breeder-handlers for five thoughts on what a prospective first-time owner should know about the breed. A total 321 years of experience are represented in the responses below.



Top: Oscar, DC Sua Mah Hail to the Chief, CD, TD, the first male dual champion Pembroke Welsh Corgi, shows the breed’s tenacity with an uncooperative steer. Below: A female Pembroke moves sheep along with her owner.



PHOTOS COURTESY LYNDIA MCKEE

HERDING GROUP

They *shed*—and shed, and shed! We want prospective owners to read about coat care and understand that it is *never* correct to shave or sculpt the Pembroke's coat. The double coat provides protection from the weather, both hot and cold. Shedding is controlled by hormones and Mother Nature, and it can never be stopped.

They *bark!* The barking comes from their heritage as a dog bred to drive and monitor the Welsh cattle of centuries past. “Force barking” is used to make the cattle (or other livestock) move, now! Unsuspecting owners do not understand that the force barking is a means to getting something—probably a cookie to be quiet. In turn, that reward just provokes more barking to get yet another cookie!

They are *smart!* This is an intelligent breed, and early, consistent training is a must. The intelligence bred into them to handle a herd of cattle (or other livestock) will enable the Pembroke to easily train unsuspecting owners, whom they may perceive as another form of livestock. The breed is clever and learns quickly. The Pembroke is not a lap dog and should always be respected for the working breed that it is.

They *nip!* Not all of them, but pet owners are often surprised when they do. If a bull didn't want to move, a well-timed nip at the heels, or

possibly the nose, could make the bull change its mind. A Pembroke will chase anything that moves, and the nipping behavior may come out when they play with the children running in the yard. The breed on the whole has retained its herding instincts, with some individuals having very strong herding tendencies.

They *love* food! An adult Pembroke does not need a lot of food, yet owners will often continue to feed them the amounts they got as puppies. Or worse, the amounts listed on the dog food bag! Obesity is a real problem. Rescues have received Pembrokes weighing 75 pounds—that is the weight of *three* Pembrokes! Pay attention to the weight ranges given in the breed standard.

They are *short!* This is a medium-sized dog on short legs. As an achondroplastic breed, all those ligaments and muscles do not have as much room to attach as they do on a normal-sized dog. Strenuous activities put a lot of stress on those short legs and should be closely monitored. Though rare, the breed can get panosteitis and have issues with growth-plate closures.

So, a Pembroke is a short, barky, bossy, and intelligent herding breed who takes shedding to a professional level while he begs for food. He will train his human family to do his bidding if limits are not set and followed starting in puppyhood. Pembrokes make wonderful

companions, as well as great performance dogs who can and will do whatever is asked of them. They are happiest with jobs to do. The prospective buyer needs to do their homework and find reputable breeders who can select the puppy best suited for the home. The buyer also needs to be ready to provide regular exercise and training. A tired Pembroke sleeping upside-down on his back is a very happy dog!

—Lynda McKee,

TifflynLDM@aol.com

[Pembroke Welsh Corgi Club of America](#)

Pulik

TIME TO RALLY YOURSELF AND YOUR PULI FOR RALLY VIRTUAL!

As the coronavirus pandemic continues and people continue to look for things to do with their dogs, it seems appropriate to talk about a titling activity offered by the AKC that can be done virtually: Rally Virtual. First, you might ask, what is Rally obedience (also known as Rally or Rally-O)? Rally is based on obedience principles (though I personally find it to be much more fun than regular obedience). In Rally, you and your dog navigate side-by-side a course of 10 to 20 different signs, each of which provides instructions regarding the next skill that is to be performed. Unlike regular obedience

(and I love this part), in this sport handlers are allowed to encourage their dogs during the course, especially at the Novice level. The team of dog and handler starts with 100 points, and the judge deducts points for mistakes. After qualifying three times under two different judges, the dog earns a title.

The basic concepts of Rally were conceived by Charles L. “Bud” Kramer (who also is credited as the “father” of agility), as derived from the obedience practice of “doodling” (doing a variety of interesting warm-up and freestyle exercises). The “doodles” were usually parts of obedience exercises that taught the skills and improved performance and accuracy.

There are four levels in AKC Rally: Novice, Advanced, Excellent, and Master. Additionally, there is an optional Rally Intermediate class, with the dog on leash but with the Advanced skills. And there are advanced titles: the Rally Advanced Excellent title, in which the team has to qualify in both Advanced and Excellent in 10 trials; and the Rally Championship title, in which the team has to qualify in Advanced, Excellent, and Master.

The Rally Virtual pilot program is designed to have the Rally competitor set up a pre-designed course, video-document the team's performance, and submit it to

HERDING GROUP

the AKC. The AKC website has pre-designed Rally courses from which the exhibitor chooses. There also are Rally signs that can be downloaded, and instructional videos to help you learn each skill. Just as with in-person trials, teams must earn three qualifying scores with three different courses. To participate, follow instructions provided at the AKC website. Once the entry form is received, the video link will be assigned to a judge for review. The AKC notifies exhibitors of the unofficial scoring results, and all eligible qualifying scores are applied toward the relevant Rally title.

As of early December, 157 Pulis have earned Rally titles since 2005, with one title earned virtually. The AKC recently extended the Virtual Rally program to now end on December 31, 2021. So there is still plenty of time to take advantage of this wonderful opportunity with your Puli. Many advantages to Rally Virtual include less distraction for the dog in the ring than at a dog show, and you being able to set your own schedule, which means you are not tied to an AKC event schedule.

[Rally Virtual: further details/
how to participate](#)

—Dagmar Fertl,
dfertl@gmail.com

[Puli Club of America](#)



DAVID WOO ©AKC



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.

8051 Arco Corporate Drive, Suite 100, Raleigh, NC 27617
101 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10178

Raleigh, NC Customer Call Center.....(919) 233-9767
New York, NY Office(212) 696-8200
Fax(212) 696-8299
Website.....www.akc.org

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

DR. THOMAS M. DAVIES, CHAIRMAN • DOMINIC P. CAROTA, VICE CHAIRMAN

CLASS OF 2021

RITA J. BIDDLE
DOMINIC P. CAROTA
DR. THOMAS DAVIES
THOMAS POWERS

CLASS OF 2023

DR. J. CHARLES GARVIN
STEVEN HAMLIN
DANIEL J. SMYTH, ESQ.

CLASS OF 2022

CHRISTOPHER L. SWEETWOOD
HAROLD "RED" TATRO III
ANN WALLIN

CLASS OF 2024

DR. CARMEN L. BATTAGLIA
DR. MICHAEL KNIGHT
KAROLYNNE M. MCATEER

RONALD H. MENAKER, Chairman Emeritus
DENNIS B. SPRUNG, Ex Officio

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

DENNIS B. SPRUNG President Chief Executive Officer	GINA M. DINARDO Executive Secretary	THEODORE PHILLIPS Chief Financial Officer
--	--	--

VICE PRESIDENTS

KIRSTEN BAHLKE, Purebred Consumer Demand
MARK DUNN, Executive Vice President
KEITH FRAZIER, Executive Vice President, Business Support Services
SHEILA GOFFE, Government Relations
BRANDI HUNTER, Public Relations & Communications
DOUG LJUNGREN, Executive Vice President, Sports & Events
HEATHER MCMANUS, Deputy General Counsel
MARI-BETH O'NEILL, Sport Services
PAULA SPECTOR, Corporate Services
DAPHNA STRAUS, Business Development
TIM THOMAS, Judging Operations
JAY WAKS, Senior Executive Vice President & General Counsel

TRIAL BOARDS

APPEALS TRIAL BOARD MARTHA FELTENSTEIN, ESQ., CHAIR BARBARA W. MIENER, ESQ. BARBARA PENNY, ESQ.	TRIAL BOARD MEMBERS (cont'd) CHARLES FOLEY MEDORA HARPER DONNA HERZIG CARL HOLDER LAURIE MAULUCCI DR. ROBERT MYALL HON. JAMES PHINIZY ROBERT STEIN BETTY-ANNE STENMARK SYLVIA THOMAS	PERFORMANCE TRIAL BOARD JOSEPH BENAGE, ESQ. TIM CARWILE, ESQ., CHAIR JOHN RUSSELL ALTERNATES BILL TEAGUE ROBERT W. MONTLER
TRIAL BOARD CHAIRS THERESA DOWELL, ESQ. EUGENIA HUNTER, ESQ. LAURIE RAYMOND, ESQ.		
TRIAL BOARD MEMBERS DR. KLAUS ANSELM KATHI BROWN		

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Carroll Kennel Club
Morris Hills Dog Training Club
American Boerboel Club
American Cesky Terrier Fanciers Association
Miniature American Shepherd Club of the USA

DELEGATES CREDENTIALS

Bonnie Bieber, Middletown, DE, Wilmington Kennel Club
Mayno Blanding, Ridgefield, WA, Bichon Frise Club of America
Kathi Elliot, Scottsdale, AZ, Lewiston-Auburn Kennel Club
Diana Komarek, Topeka, KS, Topeka Kennel Club
Thea F. Lahti, New London, NH, Irish Terrier Club of America
Richard L. Reynolds, Tenafly, NJ, Garden State All Terrier Club

NOTICE

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

Ms. Marcia Catlett (Eagle, ID)
Ms. Deana Lemire (New Hudson, MI)

Mr. Jay Lucas (Melfa, VA)
Ms. Kimberly Stefanik (Milford, MI)

NOTICE

Mr. Jeff Brown (Bryan, TX) Action was taken by the Lost Pines Retriever Club for conduct at its October 11, 2020 event. Mr. Brown was charged with improper treatment in connection with an event. The Staff Event Committee reviewed the Event Committee's report and set the penalty at a reprimand and a \$100 fine. (Labrador Retrievers)

NOTICE

The AKC's Management Disciplinary Committee has suspended Ms. Rachel Clark (Arcadia, IN) from all AKC privileges for one year and imposed a \$1,000 fine, effective November 10, 2020, for non-compliance with AKC's Care and Conditions Policy (unacceptable conditions, dogs and/or facility). (Multiple Breeds)

NOTICE

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

Treatment Policy:

Effective November 10, 2020:
Ms. Leslie Ayo (Fairburn, GA) Multiple Breeds
Ms. Julie Bernet (Bucyrus, KS) Multiple Breeds
Mr. Joe Cox (Summerfield, FL) Labrador Retrievers
Ms. Kimberly Huddleston (Carroll, OH) Shetland Sheepdogs
Ms. Pamela Kyler (La Pine, OR) Labrador Retrievers, German Shorthaired Pointers

NOTIFICATION OF REPRIMANDS AND/OR FINES IMPOSED ON SUPERINTENDENTS FOR ADVERTISING JUDGES WITHOUT AKC APPROVAL, RULES APPLYING TO DOG SHOWS CHAPTER 4, SECTION 1.

Onofrio Dog Shows, LLC..... \$200
Two 4-6 Month Beginner Puppy Shows in Ridgefield, WA

NOTIFICATION OF REPRIMANDS AND/OR FINES IMPOSED ON SUPERINTENDENTS FOR LATE PUBLICATION OF A PREMIUM LIST RULES APPLYING TO DOG SHOWS CHAPTER 4, SECTION 2.

Onofrio Dog Shows, LLC.....\$250
Shows in Conroe, TX

NOTIFICATION OF REPRIMANDS AND/OR FINES IMPOSED ON SUPERINTENDENTS FOR

LATE SUBMISSION OF RECORDS *RULES APPLYING TO DOG SHOWS* CHAPTER 17, SECTION 2.

Onofrio Dog Shows, LLC.....\$975
Shows in Farmington, UT, Greeley, CO, Cambridge, MN, Superior, WI, and Logan, UT

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 APPLICANTS

Ms. Patricia A. Clark (106260) CT

(203) 426-3154

willomoor@att.net

Greyhounds, Rhodesian Ridgebacks

Mr. Channing Sheets (99781) CA

(415) 254-2582

cashe90@hotmail.com

German Shepherd Dogs

ADDITIONAL BREED JUDGING APPLICANTS

Ms. Sharon Baskerville (91922) NJ

(609) 238-9929

kaybriar@gmail.com

American Eskimo Dogs, Dalmatians,

Poodles, Tibetan Terriers, Xoloitzcuintli

Ms. Ronda Bermke (94073) WI

(920) 864-3369

bermke@centurytel.net

Belgian Sheepdogs, Border Collies

Ms. Kandy L. Boll (100060) PA

(484) 639-1393

kbcorgi@verizon.net

Cardigan Welsh Corgis

Mrs. Bergit Coady-Kabel (100809) CA

(818) 472-3352

bergithans@aol.com

Balance of Terrier Group (American Hairless Terriers, Bull Terriers, Cesky Terriers, Dandie Dinmont Terriers, Glen of Imaal Terriers, Miniature Bull Terriers, Rat Terriers)

Dr. Daniel W. Dowling (5972) ME

(207) 785-4494

drdaniel@tidewater.net

Chow Chows, Keeshonden, Lhasa Apsos, Norwegian Lundehunds

Mr. Ted W. Eubank (53715) TX

(214) 649-1104

teubank143@aol.com

Pointers, Curly-Coated Retrievers, Irish Red & White Setters, Irish Setters, Cocker Spaniels, English Springer Spaniels, Sussex Spaniels

Ms. Denise Flaim (100561) NY

(516) 509-5214

revodana@aol.com

Akitas, Anatolian Shepherds, Boerboels, Doberman Pinschers, Rottweilers, Saint Bernards

Mrs. Cathy J. Gish (42941) KY

(270) 826-8777

isacavaliers@gmail.com

Ibizan Hounds, Petits Bassets Griffons Vendeens, Pharaoh Hounds, German Pinschers, Glen of Imaal Terriers, Norfolk Terriers, Lowchen, Xoloitzcuintli,

Norwegian Buhunds, Polish Lowland Sheepdogs, Pumik

Mr. Ronald Hoh (97979) CA

(916) 481-7108

arbtr8r@msn.com

Balance of Terrier Group (Cesky Terriers, Soft Coated Wheaten Terriers), Bloodhounds, Grand Bassets Griffons Vendeens, Petits Bassets Griffons Vendeens, Portuguese Podengo Pequenos

Ms. Cindy Huggins (92440) CA

(805) 331-3723

courtlore@comcast.net

Japanese Chins, Pekingese

Dr. M. Patricia Joyce (101483) GA

(770) 938-7032

patjoyce1@att.net

Bedlington Terriers, Bull Terriers, Glen of Imaal Terriers, Kerry Blue Terriers, Lakeland Terriers, Miniature Bull Terriers, Russell Terriers, Sealyham Terriers, Soft Coated Wheaten Terriers, Pumik

Ms. Dianne Kroll (44743) OR

(971) 221-7623

dianne.kroll@frontier.com

Balance of Hound Group (American English Coonhounds, Black and Tan Coonhounds, Bluetick Coonhounds, Grand Bassets Griffons Vendeens, Plott Hounds, Redbone Coonhounds, Treeing Walker Coonhounds)

Ms. Edweena "Teddy" McDowell (17411) KS
(913) 620-4578

mcmmerle@aol.com

Balance of Terrier Group (Bedlington Terriers, Norwich Terriers, Russell Terriers)

Ms. Laura Reeves (105393) OR

(541) 761-1867

scotiadawgs@gmail.com

German Shorthaired Pointers, Sussex Spaniels, Ibizan Hounds, Saint Bernards, Manchester Terriers

Ms. Claudia Seaberg (22813) FL

(615) 403-6126

rebel.68@comcast.net

Beagles, Bloodhounds, Portuguese Podengo Pequenos, Redbone Coonhounds, Treeing Walker Coonhounds

Ms. Inge Semenschin (27410) CA

(510) 620-9688

midnightpoodles@sbcglobal.net

Azawakhs, Basenjis, Dachshunds, Greyhounds, Irish Wolfhounds, Rhodesian Ridgebacks

Mrs. Keiko Shimizu (101335) CA

(949) 537-6217

keiko.featherquest@gmail.com

Labrador Retrievers, Vizslas, Maltese, Manchester Terriers, Poodles, Pugs, Shiba Inu

Mr. Masaki Shimizu (100795) CA

(310) 819-5309

masaki.featherquest@gmail.com

Lagotti Romagnoli, Clumber Spaniels, English Cocker Spaniels, English Springer Spaniels, Wirehaired Vizslas, Bernese Mountain Dogs

Ms. Judy Wade (99715) OK

(214) 693-4447

wademanordogs@gmail.com

Great Danes, American Eskimo Dogs, Finnish Spitz, French Bulldogs, Lowchen, Shiba Inu

Ms. Pamela Wilson (64914) TX

(512) 280-3103

wilscot@sbcglobal.net

American Hairless Terriers, Bedlington Terriers, Bull Terriers, Glen of Imaal Terriers, Irish Terriers, Manchester Terriers, Rat Terriers, Welsh Terriers

JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP JUDGING APPLICANTS

Mr. Douglas Belter (108731) MI

(269) 795-7643

dougbelter@gmail.com

Ms. Ashley Dawn Fincher (108345) OK

(405) 812-9199

missashleyfincher@gmail.com

PERMIT JUDGES

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

NEW BREED PERMIT JUDGES

Ms. Shira Lee Barkon (108315) PA

(610) 587-5542

snocrest1@gmail.com

Siberian Huskies

Mr. Justin Dannenbring (46593) MT

(951) 733-1618

orionkennelsofca@aol.com

Ibizan Hounds, Whippets

Mrs. Carol Lynn Johnson (108277) MI

(616) 490-5227

forsythelabs@hotmail.com

Labrador Retrievers

Mr. Bryan K. Martin (3207) OR

(847) 922-8735

bkmshows@aol.com

Hound Group (Afghan Hounds, American Foxhounds, American English Coonhounds, Azawakhs, Basenjis, Basset Hounds, Beagles, Black and Tan Coonhounds, Bloodhounds, Bluetick Coonhounds, Borzois, Cirneco dell'Etna, Dachshunds, English Foxhounds, Grand Bassets Griffons Vendeens, Greyhounds, Harriers, Ibizan Hounds, Irish Wolfhounds, Norwegian Elkhounds, Otterhounds, Petit Basset Griffons, Vendeens, Pharaoh Hounds, Plott Hounds, Portuguese Podengo Pequenos, Redbone Coonhounds, Rhodesian Ridgebacks, Salukis, Scottish Deerhounds, Sloughis, Treeing Walker Coonhounds, Whippets)

Mrs. Jane Myers (108772) NV

(775) 313-4749

33janemyers@gmail.com

Pointers, German Shorthaired Pointers, German Wirehaired Pointers, Brittanys, Chesapeake Bay Retrievers, flat, Golden Retrievers, Labrador Retrievers, Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retrievers, English Setters, Gordon Setters, Irish Setters, Irish Red and White Setters, Clumber Spaniels, Cocker Spaniels, English Cocker Spaniels, English Springer Spaniels, Vizslas, Weimaraners, Wirehaired Pointing Griffons, Dachshunds, Rhodesian Ridgebacks, Whippets, Boxers, Doberman Pinschers, Great Danes, Rottweilers, Manchester Terriers, Poodles, Australian Cattle Dogs, Australian Shepherds, Pembroke Welsh Corgis, JS

Ms. Susan E. Schwarz (108288) CO

(970) 472-5378

4jepgr4@gmail.com

Golden Retrievers

ADDITIONAL BREED PERMIT JUDGES

Dr. Azalea A. Alvarez (97321) FL

(954) 434-0318

minsmere954@yahoo.com

Chinese Cresteds, Maltese, Shih Tzu, Silky Terriers, Bulldogs

**Permit status approval for Toy Fox Terriers pending satisfactory completion of required*

measurement and/or weighing test.

Mrs. Linn Klingel Brown (23263) AZ
(651) 226-9080
linnkling@aol.com
Balance of Hound Group (American English Coonhounds, American Foxhounds, Beagles, Black and Tan Coonhounds, Bloodhounds, Bluetick Coonhounds, Cirneco dell'Etna, English Foxhounds, Harriers)

Ms. Carol Cooper (68129) MI
(517) 862-2405
conway.filligran@gmail.com
Siberian Huskies

Mrs. Beth Downey (102539) MS
(410) 829-2455
bethdowney539@gmail.com
Alaskan Malamutes, Bernese Mountain Dogs, German Pinschers, Great Pyrenees, Leonbergers, Newfoundlands, Saint Bernards

Mr. Brandon H. Edge (101383) NC
(910) 280-9745
bedge8006@gmail.com
Cocker Spaniels, Boston Terriers Chinese Shar-Pei, Chow Chows, Coton de Tulear, Dalmatians, Lhasa Apsos, Lowchen, Poodles, Shiba Inu, Xoloitzcuintli

Ms. Christine Erickson (22529) AZ
(480) 262-6630
cmerickson767@gmail.com
Chihuahuas, Chinese Cresteds, Papillons, Pomeranians, Australian Shep-

herds

Mrs. Debra Ferguson-Jones (95483) WA
(425) 228-9750
debrafergusonjones@gmail.com
Airedale Terriers, Bull Terriers, Cairn Terriers, Dandie Dinmont Terriers, Wire Fox Terriers, Russell Terriers, Sealyham Terriers, Skye Terriers, Soft Coated Wheaten Terriers

Mr. Randy Garren (17218) NC
(919) 362-9799
k9pro@aol.com
Anatolian Shepherds, Chinooks, Dogo Argentinos, Dogues de Bordeaux, German Pinschers, Great Pyrenees, Komondorok, Newfoundlands, Portuguese Water Dogs, Samoyeds, Siberian Huskies, Tibetan Mastiffs

Mrs. Sue Goldberg (6502) NJ
(908) 647-3807
brandongroup19@gmail.com
Grand Basset Griffon Vendeens

Mr. Don Hanson (97239) AZ
(360) 510-2092
sunderfan2@gmail.com
Maltese, Bichons Frises

Ms. Britt Jung (66281) TX
(703) 626-9149
brittej@gmail.com
Barbets, Lagotti Romagnoli, German Wirehaired Pointers, Chesapeake Bay Retrievers, Curly-Coated Retrievers, Irish Red & White Setters, American Water

Spaniels, Clumber Spaniels, English Cocker Spaniels, Sussex Spaniels, Welsh Springer Spaniels, Spinoni Italiani

Mrs. Cindy Lane (65098) GA
(864) 316-6351
glane1464@yahoo.com
Airedale Terriers, Border Terriers, Cairn Terriers, Smooth Fox Terriers, Wire Fox Terriers, Lakeland Terriers, Norfolk Terriers, Norwich Terriers, Parson Russell Terriers, Russell Terriers, Scottish Terriers, Welsh Terriers

Ms. Patrice Loves (102871) PA
(717) 939-2770
lovesgold@comcast.net
Curly-Coated Retrievers

Mrs. Molly Martin (6650) AL
(334) 271-2778
mollydmartin@gmail.com
Anatolian Shepherds, Dogues de Bordeaux, Giant Schnauzers, Great Danes, Samoyeds, Siberian Huskies

Mrs. Debbie L. Melgreen (98655) IL
(309) 358-1233
melridge@mymctc.net
Balance of Herding Group (Australian Cattle Dogs, Bearded Collies, Belgian Laekenois, Norwegian Buhunds, Swedish Vallhunds), Doberman Pinschers

Dr. A. Todd Miller (96991) MO
(573) 560-3383
whippetsofjomyr@icloud.com
Brussels Griffons, Chihuahuas, English

Toy Spaniels, Pekingese, Poodles, Pugs

Ms. Shelley Miller (102995) NC
(919) 525-5001
sunmagicclumbers@gmail.com
Chesapeake Bay Retrievers, English Setters, Vizslas

Mr. James A. Moses (93094) GA
(770) 329-4768
jmoses0924@aol.com
Pointers, Curly-Coated Retrievers, Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retrievers, Gordon Setters, Field Spaniels, Welsh Springer Spaniels, Spinoni Italiani, Vizslas, Weimaraners, American English Coonhounds, American Foxhounds, Black and Tan Coonhounds

Ms. Mary C. Murphy-East (36967) MN
(763) 291-2263
marmcmurph@aol.com
Irish Setters, Irish Red & White Setters, Spinoni Italiani

Mr. Christopher Tilghman Neale (6124) FL
(352) 222-4165
christopherneale@me.com
Lagotti Romagnoli, Chesapeake Bay Retrievers, Irish Red & White Setters, American Water Spaniels, Wirehaired Pointing Griffons, Wirehaired Vizslas

Mr. Thomas J. Nuss (93619) NJ
(856) 404-3029
nusstj@comcast.net
Bullmastiffs, Italian Greyhounds

Ms. Cynthia L. Pagurski (93923) IL

(773) 416-7871
di_amores@att.net

Siberian Huskies, Havanese

Mr. John C. Ramirez (1814) CA

(310) 991-0241
jrami68620@aol.com

Airedale Terriers, Cairn Terriers, Glen of Imaal Terriers, Parson Russell Terriers

Mr. Joseph Reno (6407) NJ

(908) 561-7098
hicrest121@aol.com

Balance Herding Group (Beaucerons, Belgian Laekenois, Border Collies, Entlebucher Mountain Dogs, Finnish Lapphunds, Swedish Vallhunds)

Mrs. Janice K. Schreiber (17450) WA

(253) 846-7999
ashenafea@msn.com

Greyhounds, Norwegian Elkhounds, Portuguese Podengo Pequenos

Mr. Johnny Shoemaker (19267) NV

(702) 834-6557
dssup@cs.com

Azawakhs, Borzois, Cirneco dell'Etna, Irish Wolfhounds, Portuguese Podengo Pequenos, Sloughis, Treeing Walker Coonhounds

Ms. Amy Sorbie (36968) CO

(720) 245-5781
amy.sorbie@vca.com

Cavalier King Charles Spaniels, English Toy Spaniels, Manchester Terriers, Papil-

lons, Pekingese, Silky Terriers

JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP PERMIT JUDGE

Miss Coby Rudakewiz (108145) PA

(717) 315-5827
crudakewiz11@gmail.com

JS

BEST IN SHOW

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

Mr. Robert E. Schwalbe (55062) GA

(706) 693-7142
reschwalbe@yahoo.com

REINSTATED JUDGE

The Judging eligibility of the following person has been reinstated.

Mr. Wayne Cavanaugh (5571) MI

(269) 760-2552
wcavanaugh317@gmail.com

Pointers, Chesapeake Bay Retrievers, Curly-Coated Retrievers, Flat-Coated Retrievers, English Setters, Irish Setters, Gordon Setters, English Cocker Spaniels, English Springer Spaniels

**Permit status approval for Golden Retrievers, Labrador Retrievers, Beagles pending satisfactory completion of required measurement*

and/or weighing test.

Mr. Bryan K. Martin (3207) OR

(847) 922-8735
bkmsshows@aol.com
JS

EMERITUS CONFORMATION JUDGE

Mr. Didier Ardoin

DECEASED CONFORMATION JUDGES

Mrs. Dody Froehlich

Mr. Roger R. Hartinger

Ms. Susan E. Paine

Mr. Steven G. Schorr

Mrs. Pamela Winters

DECEASED OBEDIENCE/RALLY JUDGE

Mr. Ronald F Roberts (FL)

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:

BUZZARDS-Australian Cattle Dogs-

Theresa Buzzard Couch & Colsten Couch

CHIMO- Great Danes- Sharon G. Fulford-Fint

DELPHI- Boston Terriers- Delores J. Ferrero & John W. Flora

DESERT SKY- Cane Corso- Shannon D

Smith & Leila H.

GOLD STAR- Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retrievers-Vicki L. Wagner & Barry Wagner

HALO- Pomeranians- Haley M Pursell

INFINITY'S- German Shorthaired Pointers- Osvaldo Miranda & Griselda A. Gonzalez

KASHMIR'S- Golden Retrievers- Christine A. Brandt

MONARCH'S- Rhodesian Ridgebacks-

Laurie A. Hynes & Susan A. Hynes

NEVERLAM- Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retrievers- Wendy J. Hooke & Peter J. Hooke

RANSOMSHIRE'S- German Shepherd

Dogs- Ellen R. Ransom

REGISTERED NAME PREFIXES GRANTED

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

AMOUR-Irish Wolfhounds- Beverly Conroy

AVION's - Cavalier King Charles Spaniels- Maricela Boullosa Cedillo

DREAMGAIT- Poodles- Mark Gresh

FLF -Pembroke Welsh Corgis & Cardigan

Welsh Corgis- Debbie A Mock

FOXRIDGE Farms - Toy Fox Terriers- Shannon L Fenner

KSP - Labrador Retrievers & German Shorthaired Pointers- Susan N Devereaux

MOD F'S- Dachshunds & Havanese Joe E. McCall

MOFFETT'S- French Bulldogs- Rev. Edwin Moffett

MOUNT BETHEL- Poodles- Darcy C Kallus
NO LIMITS -German Shorthaired Pointers-
Jeffrey C. Bosch

PALADIN- Cane Corso- Roy A. Haney and
Sue-Ann B. Haney

POTOMAC CREEK-Labrador Retrievers-
Paula A Scholz & Timothy M Scholz

R3- Mastiff- Tim J. Pearson

ROMANYORK- Yorkshire Terriers- Filomena
C. Sarlea

SPOT ON- Labrador Retrievers- Deborah Kelley

STARDUST- American Eskimo Dogs-Laurie S.
Boles

TITAN'S-Akitas Cory L. Crayton

VOM NORDENWAID- German Shepherd
Dogs-Angela D. Nordquist

WINDYACRES-Pembroke Welsh Corgis-De-
brah E. Peterson

WINTERBERRY-Collies-Kathleen Pirro & Kia
Pirro

ZOBELA-Siberian Huskies- Paige B. Strickland

ZOOZOOZ-Bull Terriers- Austin Salmon &
Sheila Salmonxc



**AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB, INC.
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
AKC OFFICES AT 101 PARK AVENUE,
NEW YORK, NY AND VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE
NOVEMBER 10, 2020**

The Board convened via Zoom Video
Conference on Tuesday November 10,
2020 at 11:03 a.m.

Mr. Sprung was present in the NY Office.
All other Directors participated in the
meeting by video conference. The
Executive Secretary was present in the NY
Office and participated by video confer-
ence.

The October 13, 2020 Board meeting
minutes, copies of which had been pro-
vided to all Directors, were reviewed.

Upon a motion by Dr. Battaglia, seconded
by Mr. Sweetwood, the October 13, 2020
Board meeting minutes were unani-
mously approved.

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Mr. Sprung reported that registration is

continuing to do well during the COVID-
19 pandemic spike. Litters, individual
dogs, pedigrees, DNA, AKC GoodDog!
Helpline and AKC PuppyVisor™ enroll-
ments are each up.

Events and Entries:

As of November 9, 2020, events are down
62% in the aggregate from mid-March to
year end.

A total of 14,147 events have been can-
celled or postponed in 2020.

Fast CAT, Scent Work, Hunt Tests, Field
Trials, Agility and Conformation
Specialties are doing well. Total entries
through September 30, 2020 are down
1,311,000.

STAFF: Thirty-eight (38) individuals are
back to work, one (1) went to work for
AKC REUNITE and eleven (11) former
employees were offered positions or have
advised AKC that they would not return.
Five (5) more positions are planning to
return in 2020 and fifteen (15) in 2021,
for a total of seventy (70) positions.
There are an additional 16 positions that
are approved for rehire in 2021 as work-
load requires.

I.T.: The IT Department is set for the No-

vember 16-20, 2020 Delegate Committee
meetings and the December 2, 2020 Dele-
gate meeting which will be conducted via
the Zoom platform.

ORLANDO: A very robust and well-thought-
out plan will be implemented in Orlando
with extraordinary safety and social dis-
tancing measures in place. It is truly a
multi-departmental venture.

Conformation entries opened October
23, 2020 and closed on November 18,
2020. To date Conformation has 3,058
entries; Bred-By-Exhibitor: 549; Agility:
608 + 78 Juniors; Puppy and Juniors
Stakes: 668; National Owner-Handled
Series Finals: 317.

The National Championship experience
will be very different this year due to the
event modifications for COVID-19.

Gina DiNardo, Executive Secretary, and
Paula Spector, Vice President, Corporate
Services, participated in this portion of
the meeting to share with the Board
details about these modifications and
safety measures planned for the National
Championship week.

Legal Update:

The Board reviewed a legal update as of

October 2020.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was an EXECUTIVE SESSION to discuss sensitive business matters. Nothing was reported out of this session.

FINANCE

Ted Phillips, Chief Financial Officer, provided a financial update for the nine months ending September 30, 2020.

Despite the ongoing challenges due to COVID-19, a positive report of AKC's operations was conveyed.

YTD Net Operating Income is \$9.6 million primarily due to higher registration revenues and cost containment, offset by lower recording and service fees.

Registrations Statistics: 2020 YTD Litter Reg. was 6.5% ahead of budget, 8.2% better than 2019 YTD. 2020 YTD Dog Reg. was 15% ahead of budget, 17% better than 2019 YTD.

Registration Fees exceed the prior year by 18% or \$4.4 million. This increase is led by Dog Registration ahead of 2019 by 23% or \$3.9 million.

Events and Entries continue to reflect the impact of COVID-19 cancellations.

Compared to the same period in 2019, Events & Entries were down by 53.5% &

57%, respectively. Events & Other Fees trail budget and 2019 Actual by 25% and 27% respectively. This is primarily due to Recording & Service Fees which trail prior year by 52% or \$4.6 million.

One key offset is Pedigree & Other Litter Fees exceed budget by 22% or \$1.1mil primarily due to 3Generation Pedigree Sales.

Product & Service Sales exceed budget by 14% or \$1.1 million led by Merchandise Sales due to increases in e-commerce sales ahead of prior year by 44% or \$520k.

Advertising, Sponsor/Royalties trail budget by 12.5% or \$1.1 million due to a combination of lower income across all lines due to lower activity due to the pandemic.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Mari-Beth O'Neill, Vice President, Sport Services; Sheila Goffe, Vice President, Government Relations; Brandi Hunter, Vice President, Communications and Public Relations; and Ashley Jacot, Director of Education, participated in this portion of the meeting via videoconference.

American Hairless Terrier Stud Book

The Board reviewed a request from the American Hairless Terrier Club of

America to keep the Stud Book Open for the Breed until January 1, 2026. The American Hairless Terrier Stud Book is scheduled to close January 1, 2021. Currently AKC will accept dogs registered with United Kennel Club.

Following a motion by Mr. Tatro, seconded by Mr. Sweetwood the Board VOTED (unanimously) that the American Hairless Terrier Stud Book will remain open until January 1, 2026.

Siberian Husky Proposed Breed Standard Revision

The Board reviewed the proposed revisions to the Nose, Color and Disqualification sections of the Siberian Husky breed standard as submitted by the Siberian Husky Club of America, Inc. (SHCA). The current standard was approved October 9, 1990.

Following a motion by Dr. Davies, seconded by Dr. Garvin, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to approve the proposed Standard revisions for ballot by the SHCA in accordance with the Siberian Husky Club of America's Constitution and By-laws.

Acceptance of Pedigrees from the Azerbaijan Kennel Club

The Board reviewed a request from the

Azerbaijan Kennel Club to be added to the list of registries with pedigrees acceptable for AKC registration. Kennel Union of the Republic of Azerbaijan (hereinafter referred as KURA) is a national non-profitable canine organization in Azerbaijan, which was established in 2001 and a member of FCI (Fédération Cynologique Internationale) since 2006, and FCI full member since 2015. KURA is the only all breed registry authority in the country. KURA issues Pedigrees and records registration records of all pure breed dogs in Azerbaijan.

In 2019, KURA registered approximately 2500 dogs. Since 2015, KURA organizes CRUFT'S Qualification shows 2 times per year and International Dog Shows inviting FCI international judges; and KURA conduct and participate in education programs, seminars.

This will be discussed further at the January Board meeting.

Mudi Eligibility to Compete in the Herding Group

The Board reviewed a request from The Mudi Club of America (MCA). MCA has submitted a petition seeking acceptance into the AKC Stud Book and for the Mudi to be eligible to compete in the Herding

Group. MCA also submitted a proposed breed standard for approval. The Standard for the Mudi is in the AKC format. The Sport Services Department has approved the standard, and the club membership approved the standard in October 2017.

While in the Miscellaneous Class, MCA held four Open Shows and national breed specialties. During this time the club has also conducted 4 judges workshops and breed seminars throughout the United States.

The dogs are currently exhibited on a regular basis in the Miscellaneous Class at AKC events throughout the United States. 83 Mudi have competed in 287 different conformation events in 29 different states since moving into Miscellaneous. They have earned 42 Certificate of Merit Titles. Additionally, 63 Mudi have competed in companion and performance events earning 229 titles.

This will be discussed further at the January Board meeting.

Parent Club Designation for Danish-Swedish Farmdog

The Board reviewed a request from the Danish-Swedish Farmdog Club of

America to be designated as the Parent Club for the Breed allowing them to hold FSS Open Shows.

The Danish-Swedish Farmdog Club of America has an active membership participating in Companion Events and FSS Open Shows when available.

This will be discussed further at the January Board meeting.

Russian Toy Eligibility to Compete in the Toy Group

The Board reviewed a request from The Russian Toy Club of America (RTCA). RTCA has submitted a petition seeking acceptance into the AKC Stud Book and for the Russian Toy to be eligible to compete in the Toy Group. RTCA also submitted a proposed breed standard for approval.

The Standard for the Russian Toy is in the AKC format. The Sport Services Department has approved the standard, and the club membership approved the standard in October 2017.

While in the Miscellaneous Class they held six Open Shows and national breed specialties. During this time the club has also conducted 3 judges workshops and breed seminars throughout the United States.

The dogs are currently exhibited on a regular basis in the Miscellaneous Class at AKC events throughout the United States. 205 Russian Toy have competed in 450 different conformation events in 39 different states since moving into Miscellaneous. They have earned 30 Certificate of Merit Titles. Additionally, 48 Russian Toy have competed in companion and performance events earning 144 titles.

This will be discussed further at the January Board meeting.

AKC Detection Dog Task Force Patriotic Puppy Program Update & Strategic Plan

Sheila Goffe, Vice President, Government Relations provided an update on the AKC Detection Dog Task Force Patriotic Puppy Program. The Detection Dog Task Force committee members are AKC Board members Dr. Carmen Battaglia, Co-Chair; Christopher Sweetwood, Co-Chair; Rita Biddle, Dominic Carota and Ann Wallin and AKC Staff members AKC Vice President,

Government Relations, Sheila Goffe; Executive Vice President, Mark Dunn and Executive Vice President Doug Ljungren.

The purpose of the AKC Detection Dog

Task Force is “to study specific areas in which the AKC could help address the crisis of a shortage of high-quality explosives detection dogs for U.S. national and public security while also advancing recognition of AKC as preeminent authority on canines”.

The DDTF focuses on three major areas:

- Breeder Education and Outreach,
- Conferences/Webinars and,
- Public Policy (GR)

The Patriotic Puppy Program (PPP) is a pilot program that falls within the education and outreach mission of the DDTF. The purpose of the patriotic puppy program is to study whether AKC breeders can provide a suitable and reliable source of future “green” dogs that could then be purchased by law enforcement or government agencies for advanced training and successful deployment, primarily as explosives detection dogs (EDDs).

In August, the Patriotic Puppy Program transitioned to phase 2 of the program. Phase 2 restructures the program to broaden training and outreach to include the development of detector dogs for deployment at local and state levels. The Primary goal of PPP Phase 2 is to establish training protocols, assist trainers and

place graduate puppies with local, state and federal Law enforcement.

Government Relations Update Third Quarter 2020

The Board reviewed an update for the for the third quarter of 2020 and a status update on current GR department activity, major projects, significant activities and legislative successes.

The pandemic and response continue to have a dramatic impact on legislatures and policymaking at all levels of government. Legislative offices at the U.S.

Capitol and many state capitols are closed to one-on-one constituent meetings. Instead, many meetings and communications are increasingly conducted by phone or zoom or similar electronic platforms.

Through the third quarter of 2020, AKC GR has monitored, evaluated and responded to more than 3,300 federal, state and local bills and 630 pending (750 tracked) implementing regulations that could impact responsible dog ownership, the health and wellbeing of dogs, the rights of dog owners, and/or the interests of the American Kennel Club. This represents a nearly 50% increase in legislative analysis activity and a 40% increase in pending regulations over the same period in 2019.

In addition, AKC GR has published alerts on more than 190 legislative proposals on state, local and federal issues that impact dog owners, and provided written and/or oral testimony for more than 175 of these measures. This represents a 46% increase in advocacy engagements over the same period in 2019.

GR also monitored 753 proposed regulatory (administrative rule) changes at the state and federal level, with approximately 630 of these actively pending.

In addition, AKC GR is monitoring, analyzing and responding to constantly changing state executive orders in all 50 states, state and federal legislation and relief packages, business/events closure requirements, and efforts to limit legal liability regarding COVID-19 transmission for organizations that follow CDC, state and other relevant health and safety precautions.

AKC Education Q3 Report

The Board reviewed a memo that provided an update of the Education department's activities and accomplishments for the third quarter of 2020 and provided a status update of current projects and initiatives.

Canine College

Breed Courses

Breed courses were offered with a 50% discount through September 30, 2020. The number of breed courses purchased in Q3 of 2020 was 29.5% higher than Q3 of 2019.

- The Whippet breed course is undergoing final changes from the Parent Club and is scheduled to launch at the end of October.
- The Azawakh, Pekingese, Norfolk Terrier and PBGV courses were updated in Q3.
- The Italian Greyhound, Chihuahua, English Cocker Spaniel and Silky Terrier courses are currently under development.

Breeder Education

The Breeding Systems and Genetic Defects and Health courses were completed and launched. The courses were completely redesigned and relaunched in Q3, featuring the most up to date information, as well as state of the art interactivities.

- A total of 2,359 Breeder Education courses were ordered in Q3 of 2020, which is an increase of 17.4% from Q3 of 2019.
- The breeder exams for Breeding Systems and Genetic Health and De-

facts were updated in Q3.

Public Education

- The AKC PupPals Program continues to grow and expand, most recently including those affected by the California wildfires. Since its launch in August 2019, we've received over 4,000 dog submissions and more than 900 requests for PupPals.
- The Virtual AKC Patch Program continues to receive sign ups daily, with more than 40 children completing this program in Q3.
- AKC Canine Ambassadors continue to teach about purebred dogs and responsible dog ownership through virtual offerings, though they are eager to return to the classrooms and libraries. We now have more than 380 active Canine Ambassadors
- AKC Breed of the Week for Kids continues to be updated with a new breed each week. During Q3, the following breeds were introduced to the participants: Dogo Argentino, Sealyham Terrier, Australian Shepherd, Pomeranian, Great Pyrenees, Black and Tan Coonhound, Bulldog, and Vizsla.

AKC Education Webinar Series

AKC Education continues to collaborate

with Judging Operations to host breed webinars for judges. Webinars are currently offered every Tuesday evening. In Q3, 20 breeds were featured, reaching 5,162 live attendees. Since its launch in March 2020, 82 breeds have been presented to 24,041 live attendees. In addition, the recordings have been watched 6,267 times.

Since March 2020, AKC reached more than 31,000 constituents using these educational webinars. Webinars on various topics will continue through the rest of 2020 and into 2021.

AKC Communications Q3 Report

The Board reviewed an update on the Communications' departments accomplishments for the third quarter of 2020.

TOTALS:

Clips Evaluated in Q3:	3,540
Q3 Potential Audience Reached:	6,722,492,060
Publicity Value for Q3:	\$7,699,835.59

**Numbers and values provided by media monitoring platform Cision.*

Highlights of Communications/PR

Activities:

- Promoted the second AKC Virtual Top Dog Challenge, resulting in a segment on PIX11 Morning News.
- Created materials for AKC National Championship.

- Distributed 13 press releases to appropriate media outlets.
- Weekly "AKC Tips" articles written for McClatchy-Tribune reaching 600 newspapers, including the Chattanooga Times Free Press, Dayton Daily News, Duluth News-Tribune, Fresno Bee, Idaho Statesman, Kingsport Times-News and Rochester Democrat and Chronicle, among others.
- Offered outreach assistance to clubs to promote events or send cancellation notifications due to the COVID-19 outbreak.
- Promoted first ever Virtual AKC RDO Day in September 2020.
- Worked with AKC Reunite to create press materials to promote unveiling of trailers through their Pet Disaster Relief program.

COMPANION AND PERFORMANCE

Doug Ljungren, Executive Vice President, Sports & Events; Pamela Manaton, Director, Obedience, Rally, Tracking; Carrie DeYoung, Director, Agility; and Caroline Murphy, Director, Performance Events participated in this portion of the meeting via video conference.

Assisting the Sports – Making Permanent Obedience, Rally and Tracking Modifications

That Expire at Year-End

In Obedience, Rally and Tracking six (6) Regulations were temporarily suspended or modified in 2020 to provide clubs and exhibitors flexibility due to COVID-19.

The Staff recommends that these six modifications become permanent in 2021. The six modifications are – (1) Closing dates seven days prior to the event, (2) Eligibility restrictions for exhibitors, (3) Eligibility restrictions for dogs, (4) Eligibility restrictions during emergency judge changes, (5) Modifying the obedience Figure Eight exercise, and (6) Publishing the rally course maps.

Recommendation

(1) Closing Dates – The recommendation is to permanently change the Regulations to allow clubs holding obedience and rally trials, at their option, to close the events at a specified closing date and time no later than 11:59PM seven (7) days prior to the event. This is a change to the Regulations and may be made by a vote of the Board. If approved, this change will be effective for all trials held on or after January 1, 2021.

(2) Eligibility Restrictions for Exhibitors – The recommendation is to perma-

nently change the obedience, rally and tracking Regulations effecting an exhibitor's eligibility from thirty days to ten days prior to an event. This is a change to the Regulations and may be made by a vote of the Board. If approved, this change will be effective for all trials held on or after January 1, 2021.

(3) Eligibility Restrictions for Dogs –

The recommendation is to permanently change the obedience and rally Regulations effecting a dog's eligibility from thirty days to ten days prior to an event. This is a change to the Regulations and may be made by a vote of the Board. If approved, this change will be effective for all trials held on or after January 1, 2021.

(4) Eligibility Restrictions During Emergency Judge Changes –

If numbers (2) and (3) above are approved, staff recommends permanently changing the Regulations for obedience and rally to waive the eligibility restrictions on exhibitors and dogs when there is an emergency judge change. This is a change to the Regulations and may be made by a vote of the Board. If approved, this change will be effective for all trials held on or after January

1, 2021.

(5) Modifying the Obedience Figure Eight Exercise – The recommendation is to permanently change the Obedience Regulations to use cones instead of Stewards for the Figure Eight exercise. This is a change to the Regulations and may be made by a vote of the Board. If approved, this change will be effective for all trials held on or after January 1, 2021.

(6) Publishing the Rally Course Maps – The recommendation is to permanently change the Rally Regulations to allow a club to distribute the rally course maps by email and to post them electronically online no earlier than 6PM the evening before each trial. This is a change to the Regulations and may be made by a vote of the Board. If approved, this change will be effective for all trials held on or after January 1, 2021.

Following a motion by Mrs. Wallin, seconded by Mr. Powers, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to approve these changes on a permanent basis.

CHAPTER 1 OBEDIENCE REGULATIONS GENERAL REGULATIONS

Section 3. Premium Lists, Entries, Closing of Entries and Catalog Order. (Paragraph 5) The premium list shall specify the name and address of the Superintendent or Trial Secretary who is to receive the entries.

Opening & Closing Dates. In order to provide fair opportunity for all exhibitors to enter upcoming events, premium lists are required to be published at least 72-hours prior to the acceptance of entries. Events whose entries are limited must have a defined date and time for the opening of entries which is to be prominently displayed on the cover page of the premium list. In addition, every premium list shall specify the date and time at which entries for a trial shall close. For all trials the specified closing date and time must be no later than 11:59PM seven (7) days prior to the trial.

Whenever the closing day falls on a postal holiday, entries received in any form up to 24 hours from the published closing date and time may be accepted.

Section 14. Dogs That May Not Compete. (Paragraphs 8 & 9)

No exhibitor may show a dog under a judge at an obedience trial if the exhibitor has participated in a training session taught by that judge within ten (10) days prior to the date of the event.

No dog may be entered or shown under a judge at an obedience trial if the dog is owned or handled by any person who has regularly served as a trainer or instructor of that judge, either individually or through classes, or if the dog has been regularly trained or instructed by the judge within ten (10) days prior to the date of the obedience trial. “Trained or instructed” applies equally to judges who train professionally or as amateurs and to judges who train individual dogs or train or instruct dogs in classes with or through their handlers (see “Glossary of Terms”). In either case above, the ten (10) day period is not in effect when a judge has been assigned on an emergency basis within 72-hours of an event.

CHAPTER 3 OBEDIENCE REGULATIONS NOVICE

Section 5. Heel on Leash and Figure Eight. (Paragraph 6)
For the Figure Eight, the handler will stand and the dog will sit in heel position facing the judge, midway between two

cones that are 17 to 37 inches high and no more than 15 inches wide at the base, that will be placed 8 feet apart. The Figure Eight in the Novice classes will be done on leash; the handler may go around either cone first. The judge will ask “Are you ready?” before giving the first order. The handler and dog will walk briskly around and between the two cones twice. There will be no about turn, fast or slow, but the judge must order at least one halt during this exercise and another halt at the end.

CHAPTER 2 OBEDIENCE REGULATIONS REGULATIONS FOR PERFORMANCE AND JUDGING JUDGING STANDARDS AND PROCEDURES

Section 1. Standardized Judging.
Heeling Pattern. *The same pattern should be maintained as far as practicable for each competing dog. This is a foundation exercise, and it determines the standards for all exercises in which the dog is heeling. The minimum heeling requirements for any class are normal heeling, a fast, a slow, a left turn, a right turn, an about-turn, a halt, and a sit.*
The heeling patterns should not be in the area of the table and/or gate and should have only one element of an exercise on a leg. (For example, there shall not be a halt and a slow on the same leg of an exercise.) A fast must always be

on a long dimension of the ring; slow may be either on the short or long dimension of the ring. The fast and slow should be of significant length, not just several steps. No pattern will have more than one fast and one slow. If possible, have one leg of the heeling pattern with no element on it. The "L" pattern is a minimal pattern. Other patterns are acceptable, but excessive complexity should be avoided. The judge may leave the Figure Eight cones in position in the ring, provided this equipment will not interfere with the performance of the other exercises.

CHAPTER 1 AKC RALLY® REGULATIONS GENERAL REGULATIONS

Section 2. Premium Lists, Entries, Closing of Entries and Catalog Order. (Paragraph 2)

The premium list shall specify the name and address of the Superintendent or Trial Secretary who is to receive the entries.

Opening and Closing Dates. In order to provide fair opportunity for all exhibitors to enter upcoming events, premium lists are required to be published at least 72-hours prior to the acceptance of entries. Events whose entries are limited must have a defined date and time for the opening of entries which must be promi-

nently displayed on the cover page of the premium list. In addition, every premium list shall specify the date and time at which entries for a trial shall close. For all trials the specified closing date and time must be no later than 11:59PM seven (7) days prior to the trial.

Whenever the closing day falls on a postal holiday, entries received in any form up to 24 hours from the published closing date and time may be accepted.

Section 13. Dogs that May Not Compete. (Paragraphs 8 & 9)

No exhibitor may show a dog under a judge at a rally trial if the exhibitor has participated in a training session taught by that judge within ten (10) days prior to the date of the event.

No dog may be entered or shown under a judge at a rally trial if the dog is owned or handled by any person who has regularly served as a trainer or instructor of that judge, either individually or through classes, or if the dog has been regularly trained or instructed by the judge within ten (10) days prior to the date of the rally trial. "Trained or instructed" applies equally to judges who train professionally or as amateurs and to judges who train individual dogs or train or instruct dogs in classes with or through their handlers (see "Glossary of Terms").

In either case above, the ten (10) day period is not in effect when a judge has been assigned on an emergency basis within 72-hours of an event.

CHAPTER 2 AKC RALLY® REGULATIONS REGULATIONS FOR PERFORMANCE AND JUDGING; JUDGING STANDARDS, PROCEDURES AND SCORING

Section 25. Walkthrough Time. The course for each class will be posted at the ring when the judge arrives. The Trial Secretary may send copies of the course to exhibitors by email no earlier than 6PM on the evening preceding each trial and the courses may be published online electronically by the Trial Secretary at the same time, if available. The club should have a few printed course copies available for those that cannot take photos of the posted courses or the ability to access the website.

When there are not more than 20 dogs entered, and the same start time is listed for the A and B classes of the same title level the judge will combine the walkthrough. At the listed start time for the class, a walkthrough of up to 10 minutes will be allowed for handlers without their dogs and judging of the class

will follow. The judge must remain in the ring during the walkthrough but will not brief the handlers.

For classes with 40 or more dogs entered an additional walkthrough time of up to 10 minutes will be provided. An additional 10 minutes must be added into the first hour of judging for the first walkthrough.

CHAPTER 1 TRACKING REGULATIONS GENERAL REGULATIONS

Section 12. Dogs that May Not Compete. (Paragraph 8)

No exhibitor may show a dog under a judge at a tracking test if the exhibitor has participated in a training session taught by that judge within ten (10) days prior to the date of the event.

CHAPTER 2 TRACKING REGULATIONS REGULATIONS FOR PERFORMANCE AND JUDGING

Section 9. (Paragraph 4)

People cannot act as tracklayers for dogs if, within the past 10 days, they have boarded, laid track for, or regularly trained the dogs whose tracks they are to lay. The tracklayer must not be a person with whom the dog has resided or a mem-

ber of the household or a member of the immediate family of the dog's handler. The judges will determine the order in which the tracks are run and the number of each track.

Virtual Obedience Test Program

The Board reviewed a recommendation to create an AKC Virtual Obedience Test Program consisting of two beginning level classes – Virtual Beginner Novice and Virtual Novice. The purpose is to provide owners that are not able or willing to attend an in-person event an opportunity to stay engaged in the sport by evaluating their skill and teamwork via video. The experience with Virtual Rally has demonstrated, a virtual approach also attracts new participants to the sport. The exercises in virtual obedience will be slightly different than in-person tests, therefore the titles earned will be designated with the letter V - Beginner Novice Virtual (BNV) and Companion Dog Virtual (CDV).

There will be two beginning levels of virtual obedience offered, with possible expansion of the program over time. The first two levels in the Virtual Obedience Test program will be Virtual Beginner Novice and Virtual Novice classes.

Following a motion by Mr. Powers, seconded by Mrs. Wallin, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to consider the matter at this meeting, waiving the normal notice procedures.

Following a motion by Dr. Battaglia, seconded by Mr. Sweetwood, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to approve an AKC Virtual Obedience Test Program effective March 1, 2021.

Retriever Hunting Tests – Amateur Set Aside Entries in the Master Hunter Test

The Board reviewed a recommended change to the Retriever Hunting Test Regulations to provide for clubs to set aside either 25% or 35% of the entries (club's option) for amateur handlers in a limited entry Master Hunter test. Currently amateurs are having difficulty entering the Master level test because professional handlers are entering many dogs. This situation is undermining amateur involvement in the sport. This recommendation specifically sets aside entries for amateur handlers. If the entries are not used within one day, the slots are open to all handlers. No slots are lost; however, the change provides a degree of relief for amateur handlers, who are the backbone of the sport. Strong amateur participation will pro-

mote the future health of the program. The Retriever Hunting Test Advisory Committee unanimously supported this recommendation.

Following a motion by Mrs. Wallin, seconded by Mr. Powers, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to consider the matter at this meeting, waiving the normal notice procedures.

Following a motion by Ms. Biddle, seconded by Mr. Powers, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to approve is a change to the Regulations and Guidelines for AKC Hunting Tests for Retrievers effective for events approved by the AKC after April 1, 2021. Events receiving AKC approval prior to April 1, provided they have not yet started accepting entries, may implement the amateur set aside program, provided the host club reaches agreement with their entry service provider.

Chapter 1, Section 4. Entry Requirements. New paragraph #7 entitled "Amateur Set Aside Entries".

Amateur Set Aside Entries

A club holding a limited entry Master Hunter test must set aside either 25% or 35% of the Master entries for amateur handlers. The amateur set aside level of

25% or 35% is at the host club's option and shall be provided at the time the event application is submitted to the AKC. This percentage applies to the total entries, prior to worker set aside entries. The number of MH entries set aside for amateurs shall be as follows:

	Entries in a Limited MH Test			
	66	100	132	200
Amateur Set Aside 25%	17	25	33	50
Amateur Set Aside 35%	23	35	46	70

Entries eligible for the amateur set aside slots must provide only one handler per dog and the handler must be an amateur. The entry must be submitted by an amateur and the dog must be handled by an amateur in the Master test.

Entries reserved for amateurs shall open one day prior to general opening at 8:00 pm in the time zone where the event is being held. If the amateur entry limit is reached in the 24 hours prior to the general opening, entries shall stop until the general opening. Additional amateur handled dogs are eligible to enter at the time of general opening. If the amateur entry limit is not reached prior to the general opening, the unused amateur entry slots may be filled by any handler at the time of the general opening. If a dog is entered under the amateur set aside provision and the amateur handler

is not able to attend the event, the dog may participate provided it is handled by another amateur. Any handler/owner misusing the amateur set aside provision will forfeit the ability to enter in this manner and may be subject to a fine from AKC. The amateur set aside provision does not apply to the Master Nationals or the Master Amateur Nationals.

Agility – For Exhibition Only Runs & The Fix and Go Option Made Permanent

In July 2019 the Board approved allowing the offering of For Exhibition Only (FEO) entries and the Fix and Go concept in Agility for a one-year trial period that started January 1, 2020. While the pandemic slowed the use of these ideas, they have been overwhelmingly accepted by the fancy. During the one-year trial period there have been no issues regarding these two additions to the program.

Following a motion by Mr. Tatro, seconded by Mr. Carota, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to make the additions a permanent part of the AKC Agility program.

Virtual Pilot Programs

Sports & Events launched several virtual pilot programs in 202.0 – Virtual Rally Novice and Intermediate classes, Virtual Agility ACT1 and ACT2 classes, and

Virtual Water Test for Pointing Breeds. These programs have all proven to be successful. The Staff requested that these programs become permanent additions to their respective sports.

Following a motion by Mr. Powers, seconded by Mr. Tatro, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to extend these programs through 2021; Staff will report back on impact and results a year from now.

See Appendix A for the AKC VIRTUAL OBEDIENCE REGULATIONS

CONFORMATION

Doug Ljungren, Executive Vice President, Sports & Events; Mari-Beth O'Neill, Vice President, Sport Services; Tim Thomas, Vice President of Dog Show Judges; Glenn Lycan, Director, Event Operations Support; and Alan Slay, Director, Event Programs participated in this portion of the meeting via video conference.

Opening of Entries for All-Breed Conformation Shows

With the demand for conformation dog shows and the entry limits being imposed, clubs are structuring the acceptance of entries in a manner which may not be fair to all potential exhibitors. This Board considered a Board Policy that lim-

its the opening of entries for a show to a single time regardless of the method of submission.

The *Rules Applying to Dog Shows* Chapter 11, Section 4 lists what an entry must have in order to be acceptable, the final paragraph of this section states:

All the requirements of the foregoing paragraph and all other specific requirements printed in the premium list must be met before an entry can be considered acceptable.

This sentence allows clubs, among other criteria, to only accept an entry via a single submission method or multiple submission methods. Recently, clubs have included multiple opening dates depending upon the type of entry submission.

There was no motion to approve the suggested policy.

Assisting the Sports – Making Permanent Conformation Modifications That Expire at Year-End

The Board reviewed modifications to regulations and policies made in 2020 for conformation to provide clubs and exhibitors flexibility due to COVID-19. This Staff recommends making two modi-

fications – (1) to make permanent the modification allowing specialty clubs to hold up to four designated specialties in a calendar year in addition to the current two specialties or two days of specialties, (2) extend the change in Regulations to allow judges assigned to NOHS Groups/Best in Show to exhibit on the same day through December 31, 2021.

Following a motion by Dr. Garvin, seconded by Mrs. Wallin, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to make this a permanent change to the Limited Number of Events Policy to allow allowing specialty clubs to hold up to four designated specialties in a calendar year in addition to the current two specialties or two days of specialties; and the Board VOTED (unanimously) to extend this change to the NOHS Regulations through December 31, 2021 to allow judges only assigned to NOHS Groups and/or NOHS Best in Show to exhibit the day they judge, but may not compete in the NOHS.

These changes are effective immediately.

Limited Number of Events Policy amended as follow:

Local specialty clubs have the option to hold shows on two days per year or two shows per year, at their option. Local specialty clubs have

the option to hold one additional show in conjunction with their breed's national specialty. Local specialty clubs may hold up to four designated specialty events in addition to the shows allotted in this section. There is no limit on national clubs.

The Use of a Club's Name Cannot be Transferred

The Board reviewed a recommendation for a Board policy to interpret and clarify Chapter 2, Section 5 of the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows*. The Rule states "the use of a club's name for show purposes cannot be transferred." The purpose of the Board policy is to clarify the Rule by stating the activities that the host club cannot delegate to a third party.

In discussing this proposal, the Board acknowledged that the management of an event must be the responsibility of the AKC member or licensed club which has applied for and been approved

to hold the event. The Board believes that it is imperative that Superintendents have their assigned roles which should not cross over into a club's roles. The Board discussed the long-term implications for the AKC and the sports that were considered and deliberated in discussing the adoption of a new policy:

- Allowing third parties to hold events on behalf of the club undermines the primary purpose of clubs. Over time, clubs could become shells that get a small slice of the funds. This is a dramatic change from the network of engaged clubs that currently exist.
- Local community interaction and support is necessary for the long-term health of the AKC and its sports. Turning events over to "outside" organizations reduces this local interaction. If this were to become common across the country, it will have a detrimental effect in the long run.
- The motivation for hosting a show is dramatically different between a local club and a third party. The clubs are motivated to hold a quality event in order to give back to the sport. The third party is motivated to maximize profit.
- It would be unhealthy for the sport to allow a handful of third-party service providers to select judges.
- From AKC's perspective, separating the responsibility for the event (the third party) from the accountability for the event (the club) increases the likelihood of administrative issues.

Following a motion by Dr. Battaglia, seconded by Mr. Powers, the Board VOTED (unanimously) effective immediately, to

approve the following policy which lists the activities that cannot be delegated to a third-party service provider:

The policy is as follows -

The Use of a Club's Name for Show Purposes Cannot be Transferred

The management of an event must be the responsibility of the AKC member or licensed club which has applied for and been approved to hold the event. To fulfill this responsibility, the following activities must be performed by the host club, sometimes in combination with the management of a cluster of events.

Responsibility for these activities cannot be delegated to third party service providers.

1. *A club officer or club show chair must submit the AKC event application and other necessary documents.*
2. *Obtaining local permits required to hold the event and paying all taxes.*
3. *There must be an event committee with a minimum of five club members.*
4. *Selection of and contracting with the judges.*
5. *Selection of and contracting with the event facility. The host club must act as the liaison with the facility and provide the necessary insurance.*
6. *Selection of and contracting with the veterinarians to service the event.*
7. *Selection of and contracting with the offi-*

cial photographer.

8. *Preparing and posting the Disaster and Emergency Plan for the event, including having a qualified emergency medical technician in attendance.*
9. *Contracting with vendors.*
10. *Entering into sponsorship agreements for the event/cluster.*
11. *Entering into an agreement to televise/broadcast the event.*
12. *Assigning committee chairs to be responsible for managing the event.*
13. *Only the host club can decide "other specific requirements" regarding how entries will be accepted.*

Conformation Junior Showmanship, Canine Partners

The Board reviewed a proposal to create an 18-month pilot program to allow Juniors with AKC Canine Partners-listed dogs to be eligible to compete in Conformation Junior Showmanship. The implementation of allowing Juniors to handle AKC Canine Partners will allow new young people and their families into the AKC, which will support the future of clubs and events.

This will be discussed further at the January Board meeting.

Event Application Practices That Expire at Year End

In early April, two changes were made to the event application process to provide clubs flexibility – (1) If an event was cancelled, the application fee was applied to the next event of the same type, and (2) Clubs were allowed to submit applications later than the normal due date without penalty.

Staff recommends that these practices be continued for 2021.

Following a motion by Mr. Sweetwood, seconded by Ms. McAteer, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to permit the Event application fee for a cancelled 2021 events to be applied to the next event of the same type.

Following a motion by Mr. Tatro, seconded by Dr. Battaglia, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to permit clubs to submit an event application up to 30 days prior to the event without incurring a late fee for future 2021 events.

AKC Vet Out-Reach Up-Date

The Sport Services Department coordinates the Vet Out-Reach Programs and Activities. Staff provided an update on accomplishments in 2020.

Vet Out-Reach programs coordinated and assisted in awarding Veterinary Scholarships in the amount of \$35,000.

Staff coordinates Lunch 'N Learn programs at the Vet Schools, providing an overview of the AKC, AKC Events, Purebred dogs and the AKC Affiliates. COVID-19 required the cancellation of presentations scheduled after March 15, 2020. Staff reached out to schools and coordinated 14 virtual presentations for the Fall semester, with Dr. Jerry Klein providing each of the presentations. A total of 20 Schools will have AKC presentations in 2020.

Vet Students Tour of local Dog Show:
Staff has developed suggestions for conducting a tour of the Dog Show which is provided to clubs interested in hosting a group of Veterinary Students, Pre-Vet, or Vet Tech Students.

Guest Lecture: Staff gave a lecture for the Undergraduate Animal Science Class at NC State January of 2020 and coordinated tour of AKC Operations Center for 100 students in February 2020.

Veterinary Conferences: Prior to COVID-19, staff attended multiple Vet Conference Annually including:

- Student AVMA Conference – sponsoring the 5K Promoting AKC FIT Dog
- AVMA Conference
- Theriogenology Conference

- AKC CHF Parent Club Conference 2019
- NC State Veterinary School Open House
- New York Vet

JUDGING OPERATIONS

Doug Ljungren, Executive Vice President, Sports & Events; and Tim Thomas, Vice President, Dog Show Judges, participated in this portion of the meeting via video conference.

Conformation Judging Approval Process – Non-Approved Judges

The Board reviewed a recommended change to the Judging Approval Process from the Chairman's Committee on the Judging Approval Process, regarding a Parent Club's ability to request a non-approved individual to judge a breed specialty show.

The Committee recommended a modification to the policy regarding a Parent Club's ability to request a non-approved individual to judge a breed specialty show. Under current policy, parent clubs

may request for a non-approved individual to judge a specialty show in its breed. There was agreement amongst the committee members approvals under this provision should not be limitless and that after a point, if one wished to continue to be invited to judge specialties they need to apply for judging approval. As a result, the Chairman's Committee recommends that non-approved individuals may not be approved to judge more than five (5) breed specialties cumulatively. Following a motion by Dr. Garvin, seconded by Ms. Biddle, the Board VOTED (unanimously) to revise to the Conformation Judging Approval Process as follows (changes underlined):

PARENT CLUB'S MAY REQUEST APPROVAL OF AN ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUAL TO JUDGE A BREED SPECIALTY SHOW

Requirements for Applicant/Judge

- Any eligible individuals including, but not limited to, professional handlers may be approved on a case-by-case, event-by-event request from the Parent Club for approval to judge a specialty in its breed.
- Must be 21 years of age.
- Must be occupationally eligible, except that professional handlers may be approved under this policy.
- Should be knowledgeable, with suc-

cess in breeding/exhibiting/handling in the breed for 15 years or more.

- Procedure and anatomy test required and if applicable, scale or wicket test required.
- A \$35 per breed fee is required for non- approved judges.
- Individuals may not be approved for more than one specialty per calendar year and no more than five specialties cumulatively.

Conformation Judging Approval Process – Continuing Education

The Board reviewed a recommended change to the Judging Approval Process from the Chairman’s Committee on the Judging Approval Process, to require the addition of continuing education requirements for Conformation Judges; the requirements should entail the completion of a recertification course/exam on current AKC procedures and policies related to conformation judges every five years. The committee also agreed the most effective and efficient means to deliver the course/exam would be via AKC’s Canine College.

Following a motion by Mr. Tatro, seconded by Mr. Carota, the Board VOTED (In favor: Battaglia, Biddle, Carota, Davies, Garvin, Hamblin, Knight, McAteer,

Powers, Sweetwood, Tatro, Wallin; Against: Smyth) to approve the requirement for Conformation Judges to complete a recertification course/exam on current AKC procedures and policies related to conformation judges every five years.

CONTINUING EDUCATION

Approved judges have an obligation through experience and ongoing study to demonstrate sound knowledge of current procedures and policies related to judging at AKC Conformation events.

As the sound judging procedure, ring control, and a thorough knowledge of AKC Rules and Policies is essential to inspire the confidence of the fancy, all approved Conformation judges are required to successfully complete a recertification course on current judging procedures and policies every five years.

The re-certification course shall be completed online in AKC’s Canine College. Judges who fail to successfully complete will be marked inactive and ineligible to accept assignments until such time this requirement is met

This requirement will be implemented by

January 1, 2022, allowing time to create and develop an effective and thorough course/exam. Fulfillment will be spread over time, with the most experienced judges who judge infrequently asked to complete first and ending with judges approved in recent years. Newly approved judges post implementation would be scheduled to complete in five years.

Conformation Judging Approval Process – Recertification Fee

The Board reviewed a recommendation to the Judging Approval Process from the Chairman’s Committee on the Judging Approval Process, to charge a \$50 fee for a recertification course/exam on current AKC procedures and policies related to conformation judges which would be required once every five years. There is a similar requirement for judges of other sports.

For other AKC sports, the frequency for completion and associated fee varies from three to six years, with fee up to \$100.

- Agility Judges – every three years at cost of \$75-\$100
- Obedience Judges– every three years at cost of \$50
- Rally Judges - every three years at cost of \$50 (must also complete Obedience requirement)

- Retriever Hunt Tests – every four years at cost of \$25+
- Pointing Breed Hunt Tests – every five years at cost of \$25+
- Herding Trials – every four years at cost of \$25+
- Lure Coursing – every six years at cost of \$25+

Following a motion by Mr. Tatro, seconded by Dr. Garvin, the Board VOTED (In favor: Carota, Davies, Garvin, Hamblin, Knight, McAteer, Powers, Tatro, Wallin; Against: Battaglia, Biddle, Sweetwood, Smyth) to approve a \$50 fee for the course/exam associated with the requirement

for Conformation Judges to complete a recertification course/exam on current AKC procedures and policies related to conformation judges every five years.

CLUBS

Doug Ljungren, Executive Vice President, Sports & Events; and Lisa Cecin, Director, Club Relations, participated in this portion of the meeting via video conference.

Assistance to Member Club Applicants

Current Board policy for processing Member club requests includes a minimum household within their local terri-

tory requirement. Some licensed clubs eligible to submit a membership request are not able to meet the local household requirement despite possessing extensive experience in holding successful AKC events. Staff suggests a policy change to waive the local household requirement for member clubs based on event experience and history so they may be approved under Board policy.

Staff recommends removing the minimum local household requirement for Member clubs from what is currently applicable, and require only 30 total households for All-Breed Clubs, 20 total households for Group, Local Specialty, Obedience, multiple-breed Field Trial and Agility clubs.

This will be discussed further at the January meeting.

Delegates and Member Clubs

The Board reviewed a report on the prospective Delegate credentials to be published in two issues of the AKC Gazette, requests for AKC membership applications, and a report on Member Club Bylaws approved and newly licensed clubs.

Report on Member Clubs Bylaws Approved in September and October 2020

Contra Costa County Kennel Club, Antioch, CA (1949)

Philadelphia Dog Training Club, Philadelphia, PA (1949)
Saccarappa Obedience Club, Westbrook, ME (1990)
Saluki Club of America (1930)

Report on Newly Licensed Clubs approved in September and October 2020

Greater Pittsburgh Tracking Club, greater Pittsburgh, PA, 18 total households, 17 local.

Houston Area K9 Scent Work Club, greater Houston, TX (communities no further north to Spring, east to Baytown, south to Missouri City, west to Sealy), 67 total households, 35 local.

On Track Agility Club of Maine, greater Augusta, ME (including communities in proximity to Interstate 25, east to Deer Isle, south to Portland), 27 total households, 19 local.

COMPLIANCE

Bri Tesarz, Director, Compliance participated in this portion of the meeting via video conference.

(Final Board Disciplinary actions are reported on the Secretary's Page)

REGISTRATION

Mark Dunn, Executive Vice President;

Kirsten Bahlke, Vice President, Consumer Demand; and Aurora Greenberg, Senior Brand Marketing Specialist, participated in this portion of the meeting via video conference.

Registration Overview:

September was our best month for Dogs since 2007 and our best September for Litters since 2009.

YTD Total Revenue from Registration and related products and services is \$41.5MM, which is 13% better than planned and \$7.0MM better than the same period last year.

The percentage of dog registrations that were registered by a "new" AKC owner increased from 57% in April – August 2019 to 62% in April – August 2020.

Selected Results from Dog Registration Survey

Staff conducted a survey of recent dog registrants who hadn't registered a dog in the past 20 years to determine why they registered. Key insights from the survey were presented to the Board. Across all respondent segments, maintaining accurate breed records, breed pride and desire for a pedigree are the top 3 motivations for registering. Survey results indi-

cate that Breeders are by far the most frequently cited way respondents learned about registration.

AKC Dog Registration Email Optimization

Staff recently redesigned three AKC Dog registration triggered emails. The Board was shown the creative designs and launch plan.

MARKETING

Kirsten Bahlke, Vice President, Consumer Demand participated in this portion of the meeting via video conference.

Overview of Q3 2020 Results

- AKC.org continues to grow behind continuous search engine optimization and production of relevant content.
- Q3 was an exceptional revenue quarter for AKC Shop despite lack of significant traffic growth - Q3 revenue +39% versus Q3 2019
- AKC email sends grew by 30% in Q3 2020 versus 2019 while keeping engagement metrics strong
- Responsible Dog Ownership Day went virtual with great success and lessons learned for even better execution going forward
- The AKC social department continues

to grow key social channels through innovative and relevant programming. AKC Facebook finished Q3 2020 with a total of 4,012,919 followers. AKC Instagram finished Q3 2020 with a total of 334,687 followers. AKC Twitter finished Q3 2020 with a total of 98,986 followers

- Marketing collaborated with Sports & Events to host a second and third AKC Virtual Top Dog Challenge with the addition of prize money for Group and Best in Show winners. Group winners were awarded \$100 and BIS winners were awarded \$200.
- Donations were made to AKC Reunite's Adopt A K-9 Cop program and to the California Fire Foundation's Supplying Aid to Victims of Emergency (SAVE) program.

AKC MEDIA

Ron Furman, Director, AKC Media and William Ellis, Manager, AKC.tv participated in this portion of the meeting via video conference.

Broadcasting, Sponsorship, Licensing and Media – are actively maintaining the ongoing operations in their respective verticals. Engagement with clients, brands, vendors and outside communications are all geared to the proper tonal-

ity of the current situation while adapting, activating the priority projects to insure AKC mission & financial attributes.

Planning for AKC.tv coverage for the AKC National Championship, including pre-shows that will lead into livestreams of the main shows and live streaming of all breed judging is underway.

CONSENT

Following a motion by Mr. Powers, seconded by Mr. Hamblin it was VOTED (unanimously) to approve the following Consent item:

- Assisting the Sports – Extending Obedience, Rally and Tracking Modifications That Expire at Year-End
- Assisting the Sports – Scent Work Modification That Expire at Year End
- CAT and Fast CAT – Dogs with Coloring to Participate
- Dalmatian Club of America - Two Additional Road Dog titles
- Assisting the Sports - Agility Modifications That Expire at Year End
- Delegate and Club Approvals
- Resolution Edd E. Bivin
- Resolution Ronald H. Menaker
- Resolution Frank T. Sabella

Assisting the Sports – Extending Obedience, Rally and Tracking Modifications that Expire at Year-End

Four (4) Regulations were suspended or modified until year end 2020 for obedience, rally and tracking, that provide clubs and exhibitors flexibility due to COVID-19. The Board reviewed recommendations on how to handle these four modifications in 2021. The four modifications are – (1) Two judges required to earn a title, (2) Waiver of 30 days and 100 miles restriction for judges, (3) Distance between exhibitors in obedience Novice group exercises, and (4) Tracking test certification expiration dates.

The Board VOTED to extend the following:

Two-Judge Requirement to Title – The waiver will continue through December 31, 2021. With judges less inclined to travel during the pandemic, this will provide exhibitors more opportunities to earn titles, enabling them to continue their growth in the sport by moving up to the next higher level. This waiver will be reevaluated prior to December 31, 2021.

Waiver of 30 days and 100 Miles Restriction for Judges – These accommodations will extend through December

31, 2021. (Previous limitations were judges could not judge again within 30 days and 100 miles of a previous assignment, nor could they judge the same classes at a cluster more than twice.) These waivers will be reevaluated prior to December 31, 2021.

Distance Between Exhibitors in the Obedience Novice Group Exercises – The distance between exhibitors in the Novice group exercise will continue to be increased to eight feet through December 31, 2021. With social distancing still a requirement due to the pandemic, this will provide greater safety to exhibitors.

Tracking Test Certification Expiration Dates – The expiration dates for tracking test certifications expiring in 2020 and 2021 will be extended for one year. This will allow continued eligibility for dogs to be entered in tracking tests.

Assisting the Sports – Scent Work Modification That Expires at Year End

The waiver of 30 days and 100-mile restriction for Scent Work judges was instituted to help clubs hire judges that did not need to fly or in some cases even stay in hotel rooms. Some states still have quarantine or testing restrictions and

many judges still are not wanting to fly or stay in hotels. This waiver is due to expire on December 30, 2020. The Board VOTED to extend the waiver of the 30 days and 100-mile restriction for Scent Work judges through December 31, 2021. (Previous limitation was a judge could not judge again within 30 days and 100 miles of a trial.) This waiver will be reevaluated prior to December 31, 2021.

CAT and Fast CAT – Dogs with Coloring to Participate

The Board reviewed a recommendation to allow dogs with coloring to participate in AKC Coursing Ability Tests (CAT) and Fast CAT events. The purpose of allowing dogs to have coat coloring is to add an element of fun to events by allowing clubs to adopt themes or to encourage dogs to “run for the cause” in support of a local activity.

The Board VOTED to amend the CAT and Fast CAT Regulations to allow dogs with coloring to participate in AKC Coursing Ability Tests (CAT) and Fast CAT events.

Dalmatian Club of America – Two Additional Road Dog titles

The Board reviewed a request from the Dalmatian Club of America. The

Dalmatian Club of America (DCA) is requesting their breed be eligible to apply for Road Dog Champion (RDCH) and Road Dog Excellent Champion (RDXCH) suffix titles through the AKC Parent Club Title Recognition Program. AKC currently recognizes three suffix Road Dog titles for the Dalmatian – Coaching Certificate (CC), Road Dog (RD), and Road Dog Excellent (RDX). Each one a higher level of achievement than the other. Coaching tests a dog’s ability to coach or follow while Road Dog tests both coaching ability and endurance. Road Dog Excellent evaluates coaching and extended endurance.

The Board VOTED to approve the request of the DCA to offer two additional titles, the Road Dog Champion (RDCH) title and the Road Dog Excellent Champion (RDXCH) title.

Assisting the Sports - Agility Modifications That Expire at Year End

For Agility, three Regulations were suspended or modified until year-end 2020 to provide clubs and exhibitors flexibility due to COVID-19. The three modifications are - (1) Two judges required to earn a title, (2) Closing dates seven days prior to the event, and (3) Waiver of 30 days and 100-mile restriction on judges.

The Board VOTED to approve the three modification as follows:

(1) Two-judge requirement to title - this waiver will be continued through December 31, 2021.

(2) Closing Dates –to permanently change Chapter 1 of the Regulations for Agility Trials to allow clubs licensed for agility, at their option, to close the event not less than seven (7) days prior to the trial. This is a change from fourteen (14) days prior to the trial. This change will be effective January 1, 2021.

REGULATIONS FOR AGILITY TRIALS AND AGILITY COURSE TEST (ACT)

CHAPTER 1

Section 14. Opening and Closing Dates.

Opening Date: For all trials, clubs shall set a date and time that entries will first be accepted.

Entries received prior to the opening date shall be considered invalid entries and shall be returned as soon as possible.

Closing Date: Clubs shall set a date and time that entries will close.

- The closing date for the trial shall not

be less than seven (7) days prior to the trial.

- Entries must be received prior to the published closing date and time.

- Entries for any agility trial may be accepted until the official closing date and time even though the advertised limit has been reached.

- The club may contact exhibitors to notify them of their entry status prior to the closing date.

- Following the closing date, the Trial Secretary shall promptly contact all entrants and advise them of their status. Entries not accepted shall be returned within seven (7) days of the closing date

(3) Waiver of Judge Distance and Time Regulation – to extend this accommodation Waiver of 30 days and 200-mile restriction on judges through December 31, 2021. This waiver will be reevaluated prior to December 31, 2021.

Delegate Approvals

The Board VOTED to approve the following individuals to serve as Delegates:

Claudia L. Burk, Bakersfield, CA
To represent Kern County Kennel Club

Carey Fayram, Gilroy, CA

To represent Del Monte Kennel Club

Jan Ritchie Gladstone, Stokesdale, NC

To represent St. Petersburg Dog Fanciers Association

Heidi Henningson, Springfield, NE

To represent American Chesapeake Club

Michael L. Moscovitz, New Haven, CT To represent Shoreline Retriever Club

Sherri Swabb, Sugarcreek Township, OH

To represent Dayton Dog Training Club

Laurie Zembrzuski, Leesburg, VA

To represent Bedlington Terrier Club of America

Request for AKC Membership

The Board VOTED to approve the following Club of Membership:

Arrowhead Kennel Club Focal Point:

Peoria, AZ

Resolution Edd. E. Bivin

AT A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF

THE AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB

Held on **November first, two thousand and twenty,**

The following Resolution was unani-

mously adopted:

WHEREAS,

Edd Embry Bivin

First joined the Chairman's Committee on the Judging Approval Process at the July of two thousand and seventeen meeting of the Board of Directors to review the Board Approved Judging Approval Process and determine where modifications may be warranted, and served on the Committee until April of two thousand and twenty; and,

WHEREAS, as a member of Chairman's Committee on the Judging Approval Process he played an integral role in upholding the principals of fair play and the pursuit of excellence that form the foundation upon which our cherished institution rests; and

WHEREAS, as a Committee Member he brought to bear his invaluable experience gained during his time on the Judges Review Committee from March two thousand and twelve to April two thousand and thirteen, his many years as Vice Chancellor of Texas Christian University, and his nearly sixty years as an AKC judge whose keen knowledge and impeccable reputation has earned him the respect and esteem of dog fanciers around the

world; and,

WHEREAS, the work of the Chairman's Committee on the Judging Approval Process resulted in the revised Judging Approval Process presented to and approved by the Board of Directors in November of two thousand and seventeen and effective January the first, two thousand and eighteen; and

WHEREAS, the revised process placed emphasis on reestablishing the difference between equality of opportunity and identical treatment of applicants, and provided a clear and defined path for approval while upholding the Mission Statement and Core Values of The American Kennel Club; and,

WHEREAS, we are ever mindful of the vital contributions he has made to The American Kennel Club and the Sport of Purebred Dogs; and,

WHEREAS, we will ever cherish our association with this dog show judge of unprecedented achievement, educator, sportsman, and friend; and,

NOW THEREFORE, be it

RESOLVED, the Directors of The

American Kennel Club extend their most sincere best wishes for the years ahead and their deep appreciation for his dedicated service to The American Kennel Club.

Dr. Thomas M. Davies

AKC Chairman

Resolution Ronald H. Menaker

AT A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF

THE AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB

Held on **November first, two thousand and twenty,** The following Resolution was unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS,

RONALD H. MENAKER

Established the AKC Chairman's Committee on the Judging Approval Process and assumed the role of the Committee's Chairman at the July of two thousand and seventeen meeting of the Board of Directors to review the Board Approved Judging Approval Process and determine where modifications may be warranted, and served as Chairman of the Committee until April of two thousand and twenty; and,

WHEREAS, as Chairman of the Committee on the Judging Approval

Process he played a leadership role in upholding the principals of fair play and the pursuit of excellence that form the foundation upon which our cherished institution rests; and

WHEREAS, as Committee Chairman he was uniquely qualified to lead the review of the Judging Approval Process by virtue of his many years as an AKC Delegate, his long tenure on the AKC Board of Directors, his term as AKC Vice Chairman of the Board, his fourteen years as AKC Chairman of the Board, his work during ten years as Show Chairman of the AKC National Championship Show, and his status as a respected dog show judge of international reputation; and,

WHEREAS, the work of the Chairman's Committee on the Judging Approval Process resulted in the revised Judging Approval Process presented to and approved by the Board of Directors in November of two thousand and seventeen and effective January the first, two thousand and eighteen; and WHEREAS, the revised process placed emphasis on reestablishing the difference between equality of opportunity and identical treatment of applicants, and provided a

clear and defined path for approval while upholding the Mission Statement and Core Values of The American Kennel Club; and,

WHEREAS, we are ever mindful of the vital contributions he has made to The American Kennel Club and the Sport of Purebred Dogs; and,

WHEREAS, we will ever cherish our association with this sportsman, businessman, friend, and towering figure in the history of our organization; and,

NOW THEREFORE, be it

RESOLVED, the Directors of The American Kennel Club extend their most sincere best wishes for the years ahead and their deep appreciation for his dedicated service to The American Kennel Club.

Dr. Thomas M. Davies
AKC Chairman

Resolution Frank T. Sabella

**AT A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF
THE AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB**
Held on November first, two thousand

and twenty,

The following Resolution was unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS,

Frank T. Sabella

First joined the Chairman's Committee on the Judging Approval Process at the July of two thousand and seventeen meeting of the Board of Directors to review the Board Approved Judging Approval Process and determine where modifications may be warranted, and served on the Committee until April of two thousand and twenty; and,

WHEREAS, as a member of Chairman's Committee on the Judging Approval Process he played an integral role in upholding the principals of fair play and the pursuit of excellence that form the foundation upon which our cherished institution rests; and

WHEREAS, as a Committee Member he brought to bear his more than twenty years as one of America's most successful and popular professional dog handlers whose expert presentation of Poodles set a high standard for future generations of handlers and dogs, and his experience gained over forty-five years as a highly esteemed AKC judge who is one of only

seven individuals to have handled a dog to Best in Show at Westminster Kennel Club and to have judged Best in Show at that same prestigious venue; and,

WHEREAS, the work of the Chairman's Committee on the Judging Approval Process resulted in the revised Judging Approval Process presented to and approved by the Board of Directors in November of two thousand and seventeen and effective January the first, two thousand and eighteen; and

WHEREAS, the revised process placed emphasis on reestablishing the difference between equality of opportunity and identical treatment of applicants, and provided a clear and defined path for approval while upholding the Mission Statement and Core Values of The American Kennel Club; and,

WHEREAS, we are ever mindful of the vital contributions he has made to The American Kennel Club and the Sport of Purebred Dogs; and,

WHEREAS, we will ever cherish our association with this legendary handler of show dogs, revered dog show judge, sportsman, and friend; and,

NOW THEREFORE, be it

RESOLVED, the Directors of The American Kennel Club extend their most sincere best wishes for the years ahead and their deep appreciation for his dedicated service to The American Kennel Club.

Dr. Thomas M. Davies
AKC Chairman

It was VOTED to adjourn Tuesday, September 10, 2020 at 5:27 p.m.

Adjourned

Attest: _____

Gina M. DiNardo,
Executive Secretary

APPENDIX A **AKC VIRTUAL OBEDIENCE REGULATIONS** **PURPOSE**

Responsible dog ownership includes training your dog to be a well-mannered and happy companion. Obedience training is the foundation for all the fun activities and performance sports available to you and your dog. The American Kennel Club Virtual Obedience program provides an opportunity for exhibitors to train their dogs, evaluate their skill and teamwork, and stay engaged in the sport

of Obedience when they are not able to attend events in person.

The performance area, known as the ring, may be set up outside or inside and on any surface. Instructions are provided to assist you in properly setting up the ring and positioning the camera. Once the online entry form is received, you will receive a confirmation email and your video will be assigned to a judge for review. AKC will notify you of the preliminary scoring results via email. All eligible qualifying scores will be recorded on your dog's AKC record and applied towards the relevant title.

If, after reading the information contained in these Regulations, you have questions about the virtual obedience program, you may email VOE@akc.org.

CHAPTER 1 GENERAL INFORMATION **REGULATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS VIRTUAL** **OBEDIENCE**

Section 1. General Eligibility. To be entered in an AKC Virtual Obedience event, the dog must be six months of age or older and registered with the American Kennel Club or recorded through the AKC Purebred Alternative Listing Program (PAL) or Canine Partners Program.

- [PAL Program](#)
- [Canine Partners Program](#)

- [Registration](#)

Section 2. Class Eligibility. The requirements to enter a class are covered under each class section in these Regulations. Any dog that has been disqualified at an AKC event is not eligible to be entered in any AKC events, including all virtual events.

Section 3. Assignment Conflicts. To avoid judge assignment conflicts, the following owners/exhibitors should send an email stating the conflict and entry information to VOE@akc.org as soon as the entry is submitted.

- If the exhibitor has participated in a training session with one of the virtual judges within ten (10) days of submitting the entry.
- If the exhibitor resides in the same household as one of the virtual obedience judges.
- If the dog is owned or being exhibited by one of the virtual obedience judges or by a member of the same household.
- If a dog has been owned, sold, held under lease or handled in the ring within six months by a virtual judge or by any person residing in the same household as the judge.

Section 4. Dogs that May Enter. The following dogs may enter Virtual Obedience events:

- Any dog that has been surgically altered to correct a congenital or hereditary defect.
- Spayed bitches or castrated dogs, and dogs with disqualifying conformation faults.
- Females in season.
- Dogs with artificial coloring in their coats; however, the coloring must not cover more than one-third of the dog's coat, must not be in poor taste and cannot contain profanity.
- Handicapped dogs, such as three-legged dogs, provided that the dog appears willing and does not show any signs of discomfort or pain.
- Dogs with pacemakers; these dogs may perform with a harness on, if one is medically necessary (please send an email to VOE@akc.org before submitting an entry).
- Deaf dogs.
- One-eyed dogs.

Section 5. Dogs that May Not Enter. The following dogs may not enter in Virtual Obedience events:

- No dog under six months of age.
- A dog that is blind, as in without useful vision.

- A dog that appears sick or in pain.
- A dog that is disqualified from AKC events.

Section 6. Collars, Leashes, and Training

Aids. The dog must wear a properly fitted collar, not too tight and not too loose. No harnesses or special training collars, such as electronic or prong collars, will be permitted. Nothing may be hanging from the dog's collar or leash.

- If an obedience exercise requires a specific length of leash, it is specified in the description of the exercise.
- The leash must be made of material other than chain and be long enough to provide adequate slack.
- Martingale and chain collars, flat or rolled leather collars, and fabric collars are all acceptable.
- In all exercises where a leash is required, it must be clipped to the collar. During the performance, the leash may be held in either hand or both hands but must not be used to aid or guide the dog.
- Handlers who carry or offer food or toys in the ring, or who verbally or physically discipline their dogs, will receive a non-qualifying (NQ) score.
- Handlers who carry or wear such things as waist packs/pouches/cell

phones or any item that, in the judge's opinion, appears to be a training device or aid will receive a non-qualifying (NQ) score.

Section 7. Performance Area and Ring

Size Requirements. The performance area is defined as a ring. The ring should resemble a rectangle.

- Minimum size for the Beginner Novice and Novice ring is 30 feet x 40 feet.
- Maximum size for the Beginner Novice and Novice ring is 40 feet x 50 feet.

Section 8. Ring Set Up and Equipment.

The ring may be set up inside or outside on any surface. The owner/exhibitor is responsible for following all local/state mandates and ordinances.

- The four ring corners must be identified. The corners may be marked using tall cones, chairs, or posts of any kind. Ring gates and/or ropes may be used but are not required.
- Small cones, pots, buckets, or signs must be used as markers to define the location of each exercise and as heeling pattern markers according to the ring layout map.
- Avoid having obstacles in the ring that may obstruct the judge's view of

the performance.

- The obedience heeling pattern markers may be set up using rally signs, handwritten signs on sticks, cones, etc., to mark the halts, turns and changes of speed. If signs are used, they must be upright and not lying flat on the ground.
- The obedience heeling pattern markers are placed to the right of the of the handler's path except for those indicating a change of direction; those markers are placed directly in front of the team's path.
- Cones, pots, buckets, or posts of any kind spaced 8' apart may be used for the Figure 8.

Section 9. Camera Position and Filming.

The video must be clear, not blurry. The leash must be visible to the judge throughout the entire performance. Lighting must be considered; avoid filming directly into the sun and be careful of sun glares where portions of the dog and leash disappear. Heavily shaded areas may cause the video to be too dark.

- Minimum resolution to view videos is 720p HD. Check the camera settings before filming and set the video to the highest resolution.
- Filming must be done in landscape (horizontal) mode. Do not use the

selfie mode as this will put the dog on the wrong side of the handler.

- Filming must be done from the location shown on the map. The camera should remain in a stationary position.
- A second person may do the filming to pan and zoom, provided a tripod is used and the person remains outside the ring.
- The camera should be elevated to approximately eye level. The team must be in full view of the judge throughout the performance.
- The video must contain audio. The judge must be able to hear the sounds closest to the camera. Background noises are expected but do not add music to the performance. If a person is filming, they must remain silent once the performance begins and until the team exits the ring.
- Prior to beginning the performance, the handler must be near the camera to state the dog's call name and breed, to verbally confirm that they will not have any food or toys with them in the ring, and to show the camera the dog's collar and leash.
- Once the handler enters the ring to perform, the video must be continuous, with no pauses and no edits.
- To avoid cutting out portions of the

performance, it is recommended to start recording at least 5 seconds before starting and to not stop recording until about 5 seconds after the team exits the ring.

- To avoid delays in judging, review the video on a device other than the one you used to film it to ensure it is a working link and meets the requirements outlined in these Regulations.

Section 10. Obedience Performance Requirements and Scoring.

These Regulations set the standard of perfection by which the performance of each dog is scored; however, not every possible error and penalty is covered, only the more common and serious ones.

Performance requirements are described for each exercise followed by the relevant scoring section.

The judge must carry a mental picture of the theoretically perfect performance for each exercise and score each dog and handler against that standard. The dog should demonstrate the utmost in willingness, enjoyment and precision while the handler remains gentle, smooth and natural. Speed alone does not indicate willingness. A lack of willingness and enjoyment on the part of the dog is to be penalized, as must a lack of precision. Roughness in handling or harsh commands by the han-

dlers will be penalized.

A perfect score in obedience is 200 points, and there will be no deduction of less than one-half point. A minor deduction is defined as ½ - 2 ½ points. A substantial deduction is defined as 3 points or more, up to and including a non-qualifying (NQ) score. A qualifying score consists of more than 50 percent of the points for each exercise with a total score of at least 170 points; this certifies that the team has performed all the required exercises according to these requirements.

A qualifying score must never be awarded to a dog whose performance has not met the minimum requirements, to a dog that shows fear or resentment, or to a dog that relieves itself while in the ring.

In deciding whether a faulty performance of an exercise warrants a qualifying score, the judge will consider whether the awarding of an obedience title would be justified if all teams performed the exercise in a similar manner. The judge must not give a qualifying score for the exercise if they decide that it would be contrary to the best interest of the sport if all teams were to perform in the same way. The dog and handler are under judgment from the time they enter the ring until they leave the ring.

The virtual obedience judge will follow these Virtual Obedience Regulations and

refer to the regular Obedience Regulations for additional matters concerning judging.

Section 11. Physically Challenged

Handlers. Specific requirements of these regulations may be modified so that physically challenged handlers may compete. Such handlers must be able to move around the ring without physical assistance or guidance. However, an assistant may position a blind handler before, between and after each exercise, read any ring markers used in the class and communicate to the handler the dog's performance. Dogs handled by such handlers will be required to perform all parts of all exercises as described in these regulations and will be penalized for failure to perform any part of an exercise. Physically challenged handlers should email Virtual Obedience at VOE@akc.org with specific questions.

Section 12. Double Handling. Any attempts to control the dog by someone other than the handler, or to assist the handler, must be penalized substantially.

Section 13. Decisions. The decision of the judge will be final in all matters concerning the performance and scoring of the team.

Section 14. Heel Position. The heel position as defined in these regulations applies whether the dog is sitting, standing, lying down or moving at heel. The dog should be at the handler's left side, straight in line with the direction the handler is facing. The area from the dog's head to shoulder is to be in line with the handler's left hip. The dog should be close to but not crowding its handler, so that the handler always has freedom of motion.

Section 15. Hands and Arms. The handler is required to have their hands and arms in a natural position throughout each exercise to avoid penalty.

The Heel on Leash and Figure Eight exercise specifically states that the hands must be in a natural position, i.e. not behind the handler's back, but do not require that they be at the handler's side while heeling on leash. In all exercises where the dog is required to heel free, i.e. off leash, one of these options should be followed:

- When the handler is in motion, the arms and hands must move naturally at the sides and must hang naturally at the sides when stopped; or
- The right hand and arm must move naturally at the side, while the left

hand must be held against the front of the body, centered in the area of the waist, with the left forearm carried against the body.

There will be a substantial deduction if the hands and arms are not carried in one of these positions. The hands and arms may be adjusted during the fast portion of an exercise in order to maintain balance.

In any exercise that requires a dog to sit in front, the handler's arms and hands must hang naturally at the sides until the dog has sat in front. The handler must receive a substantial deduction for not doing so.

- Any movement of the handler's hands or arms, from the time the dog sits in front and prior to the dog returning to the heel position, will be considered an additional signal or command and will be penalized, unless such movement is otherwise permitted by these regulations.

In any exercise that requires the dog to stay in one position until the handler returns to heel position, handlers may fold their arms once while leaving and once while returning to the dog without penalty. Additional movement of the arms and hands that aid the dog will be considered additional signals and will be penalized.

No judge should consider that a handler's position is unnatural just because they do not perform with the hands and arms in the same position for each exercise. Handlers need not maintain the same position of hands and arms across exercises.

Section 16. Commands and Signals. Each exercise states when a command or signal is permitted, only one or the other, or if both a command and/or signal may be used.

- When these regulations mention a command or signal, only a single command or signal may be given.
- When these regulations specify command and/or signal, the handler may give either one or the other, or both command and signal simultaneously.

Loud commands by handlers to their dogs create a poor impression of obedience and should be avoided. If a dog is properly trained to respond to a normal tone of voice, shouting is not necessary. Commands the judge feels are excessively loud under the circumstances will be penalized substantially.

When a signal is permitted, it must be a single gesture with one arm and hand only, and the arm and hand must immediately be returned to a natural po-

sition.

- A handler may bend their body and knees to bring their hand level with the dog's eyes while giving a signal to a dog in heel position.
- Signals must be inaudible, and the handler must not touch the dog. Any unusual noise or motion may be considered a signal.
- Position of the arms and hands and movements of the head and/or body that aid the dog will be considered additional signals.
- Signaling a correction to a dog is forbidden and will be penalized.

Lack of prompt response by the dog to a command or signal is subject to a penalty. Delays by the handler in giving a command or signal, beyond the obvious pause, must be penalized. The dog should never anticipate the handler's directions but will wait for the appropriate commands and/or signals. Moving forward at the heel without any command or signal other than the natural forward movement of the handler's body will not be considered anticipation.

The dog's name may be used once immediately before a verbal command or before a verbal command and signal when these regulations permit a com-

mand and/or signal. A dog that responds to its name without waiting for the verbal command will be scored as having anticipated the command. The name will not be used with any signal not given simultaneously with a verbal command.

Whistling is prohibited and must be penalized.

Any extra commands or signals must be penalized. An extra command and/or signal in any non-principal part of an exercise (e.g., the finish in the Novice Recall) does not constitute a failing score for that exercise.

Section 17. Additional Commands or Signals. If a handler gives an additional command or signal not permitted by these Regulations, the dog shall be scored as though it had failed to perform that part of the exercise. This includes giving a signal or command when none is permitted or using the dog's name with a permitted signal but without a permitted command.

Section 18. Praise. Praise and petting are allowed between and after exercises, but points will be deducted from the total score for a dog that is not under reasonable control while being praised. There will be a substantial penalty for any dog that is picked up or carried at any time in

the obedience ring.

Section 19. Handling Between Exercises.

In the Beginner Novice and Novice classes, the dog may be guided gently by the collar between exercises. No other physical guidance is permitted and, if used, must receive minor or substantial penalties, depending on the circumstances. *Judging Procedures: Errors occurring before, between or after an exercise will be penalized under miscellaneous penalties.*

Section 20. Misbehavior. The handler is required to enter and exit the ring with the dog under control and without jumping, pulling or tugging on the leash. Any display of fear or nervousness by the dog must be penalized according to the seriousness of the misbehavior whether it occurs during or between an exercise or before or after judging.

If a dog is working smartly and continuously but goes outside a ring boundary while completing an exercise (as opposed to a dog that bolts out of the ring or leaves the ring between exercises), the penalty, if any, is left to the discretion of the judge.

If the misbehavior occurs during an exercise, the penalty must first be applied to the score for that exercise. Should the penalty be greater than the value of the

exercise, the additional points will be deducted from the total score under Miscellaneous. If such behavior occurs before or after the judging or between exercises, the entire penalty will be deducted under Miscellaneous.

Section 21. Performance Results, Explanations and Title Certificates.

Handlers will receive their preliminary performance results, via email, after an event's judging is complete. Results will include the overall score and scores for the individual exercises; judges may add brief comments on occasion. Once the official results are posted to the dog's record, a title certificate will be mailed to the address on file. Please notify us if your address has changed in the last five years.

CHAPTER 2

VIRTUAL BEGINNER NOVICE OBEDIENCE

Section 1. Virtual Beginner Novice Class. The Beginner Novice Virtual class is a titling class for all dogs who are eligible according to Chapter 1 of these Virtual Obedience Regulations.

Section 2. Virtual Beginner Novice Class Exercises and Scores. The exercises and maximum scores:

- | | |
|------------------|------------|
| 1. Heel on Leash | 40 points |
| 2. Figure Eight | 40 points |
| 3. Sit for Exam | 40 points |
| 4. Sit Stay | 40 points |
| 5. Recall | 40 points |
| Maximum Score | 200 points |

Section 3. Virtual Beginner Novice Title and Requirements. The letters BN-V will be added after the name of each dog that has been certified to have received three qualifying scores in the Virtual Beginner Novice class. That dog will receive a Virtual Beginner Novice title certificate from the AKC.

The letters BN-V will be followed by a numeric designation indicating the number of times a dog has met the requirements of the BN-V title as defined in the regulations. (BN-V2 for six qualifying scores, BN-V3 for nine qualifying scores, BN-V4 for twelve qualifying scores, etc.)

Section 4. Virtual Beginner Novice Ring Set Up. There are two different ring layouts to choose from <add links>. Set the exercises up according to the layout on the map. The grids are 10' x 10'.

Section 5. Introducing the Team. Prior to beginning the performance, the handler will be near the camera to state the dog's call name and breed, verbally confirm

they won't have any food or toys with them in the ring, and show the dog's collar and leash to the camera.

Section 6. Before and After Each Exercise.

There must be an obvious pause at the start of each exercise. Handlers may choose to cue the dog prior to the start (e.g., "ready") but must then pause before beginning. There also must be an obvious pause at the end of each exercise before the handler releases, pets, or praises the dog.

Praise and petting are allowed between and after exercises. The dog must remain under control between exercises to avoid deductions.

Section 7. Heel on Leash Description. The principal feature of this exercise is the ability of the dog and handler to work as a team.

The signs/pattern markers used for this exercise are "Start," "Right Turn," "Left Turn," "About Turn," "Slow," "Normal," "Fast," and "Halt/Sit." Slow means to slow down noticeably and fast means the handler and dog must move forward at a noticeably accelerated speed. Turns will be used only when the handler is moving at a normal speed.

The handler will enter the ring with the dog on a loose leash and stand at the

Start marker with the dog sitting in heel position. After pausing, the handler may give a command or signal to heel and will walk briskly and naturally with the dog on a loose leash. The dog should walk close to the handler's left side without moving wide away from, lagging behind, forging ahead of, or crowding the handler. The dog should not interfere with the handler's freedom of motion at any time. At the Halt/Sit marker the handler will stop and the dog should sit promptly and straight in heel position without a command or signal. After an obvious pause, the exercise is finished, and the handler may release, pet and/or praise the dog, and move efficiently to begin the Figure Eight exercise.

Section 8. Heel on Leash, Scoring. If the leash is consistently tight, i.e. not loose, or if the handler is constantly controlling the dog by tugging on the leash, constantly talking to the dog or is adapting to the dog's pace, that dog must receive a non-qualifying (NQ) score for this exercise.

Minor or substantial deductions will be made for a handler who does not pause at the start prior to moving forward, and after the Halt/Sit. Minor deductions will be made for lagging, heeling wide, forging, crowding, poor sits, failure to sit at a

halt, and other heeling imperfections. Similar deductions will be made for any tightening or jerking of the leash, for guiding the dog with the leash or failing to walk at a brisk normal pace. Minor deductions will be made for additional commands or signals to heel, or for failure of dog or handler to speed up noticeably for the fast or slow down noticeably for the slow.

A one-time single phrase of praise or encouragement by the handler to the dog is allowed without penalty. (Good, yes, nice, super, great, and attaboy/girl, are some examples of praise that would be allowed.)

Section 9. Figure Eight Description and Scoring. The principal feature of this exercise is the ability of the dog and handler to work as a team.

The Figure Eight posts will be spaced 8 feet apart. This exercise is performed on leash. The handler and dog will move to the place indicated on the map for this exercise. The handler will stand with the dog sitting in heel position, slightly back and centered between the two posts, facing forward. The Figure Eight will be performed in the direction of the arrow. The team will complete one Figure Eight and halt in the middle, pause, and then continue to complete the second Figure

Eight with a halt in the middle and pause. After the second obvious pause, the exercise is finished, and the handler may release, pet and/or praise the dog, and move efficiently to set up for the Sit for Exam exercise.

During the exercise, a one-time single phrase of praise or encouragement by the handler to the dog is allowed without penalty. Scoring is the same as described in the Heel on Leash.

Section 10. Sit for Exam Description. The principal feature of this exercise is that the dog sits in position before and during the examination.

This exercise is performed with the dog on a 6-foot leash held by the handler. The handler may gather the leash when approaching the dog for the exam and/or returning to heel position.

The handler and dog will move to the place indicated on the map for this exercise. The handler will stand with the dog sitting in heel position. The handler may command the dog to sit, pause, then may give the command and/or signal to stay, walk straight forward to the end of the 6-foot leash, turn, face the dog, and pause. The handler will then move forward to approach the dog from the front. Using the fingers and palm of either hand, the handler will briefly touch the dog's head,

and then walk around behind the dog to return to heel position. After an obvious pause, the exercise is finished, and the handler may release, pet, and/or praise the dog, and move efficiently to begin the Sit Stay – Handler Walk Around the Ring exercise.

Section 11. Sit for Exam, Scoring. A dog must receive a non-qualifying (NQ) score if it stands, lies down, or moves away from the place where it was left either before or during the examination.

Substantial deductions will be made for any extra command and/or signal given to the dog after the handler has left the heel position.

Minor or substantial deductions will be made for dropping or tightening of the leash during the exercise, or if the dog stands and/or moves away after the examination has been completed.

Minor deductions will be made for a dog that moves its feet at any time.

Section 12. Sit Stay – Handler Walk Around the Ring Description. The principal feature of this exercise is that the dog remains in the sit position once the handler has left the dog and until the handler has returned to heel position. During this exercise, the leash remains

clipped to the dog's collar. The handler and dog will move to the place indicated on the map for this exercise. The handler will stand with the dog sitting in heel position and will drop/place the leash on the ground. The handler may command the dog to sit, pause, then give the command and/or signal to stay, and immediately proceed to walk around the inside perimeter of the ring as indicated on the map. Upon completing a full perimeter walk around the ring, the handler will approach the dog from the front, and proceed to walk around behind the dog to return to heel position. After an obvious pause, the exercise is finished, and the handler may release, pet and/or praise the dog, and move efficiently to begin the Recall exercise.

Section 13. Sit Stay – Handler Walk Around the Ring, Scoring. A non-qualifying (NQ) score is required for any additional command and/or signal once the handler has left heel position, and for the dog moving a substantial distance away from the place where it was left any time during the exercise, not remaining in the sit position until the handler has returned to heel position, and repeatedly barking or whining. A substantial deduction will be made for

a dog that moves even a short distance from where it was left, barks or whines only once or twice, or changes position after the handler has returned to the heel position but before the exercise is finished.

Section 14. Recall Description. The principal features of this exercise are that the dog stay where left until called by the handler, and that the dog responds promptly to the handler's command or signal to come.

The leash is removed for this exercise and is kept by the handler. The handler may hold the leash in either hand, put the leash in a pocket, or drape it around their neck.

The handler and dog will move to the place indicated on the map for this exercise. The handler will stand with the dog sitting in heel position. The handler may command the dog to sit, pause, then give the command and/or signal to stay and walk forward to the second recall ring marker, turn to face the dog, and pause. The handler will command or signal the dog to come. Thereafter, the handler's arms and hands should hang naturally at the sides until the dog has sat in front. The dog must come directly at a brisk trot or gallop and sit straight, centered in front of the handler. While the dog is

coming to the handler, a one-time single phrase of praise or encouragement is allowed without penalty. The dog must come close enough to its handler so that the handler could touch its head without excessive bending, stretching, or moving either foot. After an obvious pause, the exercise is finished, and the handler may release, pet and/or praise the dog. The handler will clip the leash to the dog's collar and exit the ring with the dog under control and without jumping, pulling or tugging on the leash.

Section 15. Recall, Scoring. A dog must receive a non-qualifying (NQ) score if it is given an additional command and/or signal to stay, if more than two commands or signals are required for the dog to come, if it fails to come, if it moves from the place it was left before being called or signaled to come, or if it does not come close enough to its handler so that the handler could touch its head without excessive bending, stretching, or moving either foot. Substantial deductions will be made for a handler's extra command or signal to come or to sit.

Minor or substantial deductions will be made if the dog fails to come directly at a brisk trot or gallop or fails to sit. Minor deductions will be made for slow

or poor sits.

CHAPTER 3 VIRTUAL NOVICE OBEDIENCE

Section 1. Virtual Novice Class. The Novice Virtual class is a titling class for all dogs who are eligible according to Chapter 1 of these Virtual Obedience Regulations.

Section 2. Virtual Novice Class Exercises and Scores. The exercises and maximum scores:

1. Heel on Leash & Figure Eight	40 points
2. Down Stay	30 points
3. Stand for Examination	30 points
4. Heel Free	40 points
5. Recall	30 points
6. Sit Stay – Get Your Leash	30 points
Maximum Score	200 points

Section 3. Virtual Companion Dog Title and Requirements. The letters CD-V will be added after the name of each dog that has been certified to have received three qualifying scores in the Virtual Novice class. That dog will receive a Virtual Companion Dog title certificate from the AKC.

The letters CD-V will be followed by a numeric designation indicating the number of times a dog has met the requirements of the CD-V title as defined in the

regulations. (CD-V2 for six qualifying scores, CD-V3 for nine qualifying scores, CD-V4 for twelve qualifying scores, etc.)

Section 4. Virtual Novice Ring Set Up.

There are two different ring layouts to choose from <add links>. Set the exercises up according to the layout on the map. The grids are 10' x 10'.

Section 5. Introducing the Team. Prior to beginning the performance, the handler will be near the camera to state the dog's call name and breed, verbally confirm they won't have any food or toys with them in the ring, and show the dog's collar and leash to the camera.

Section 6. Before and After Each Exercise.

There must be an obvious pause at the start of each exercise. Handlers may choose to cue the dog prior to the start (e.g., "ready") but must then pause before beginning. There also must be an obvious pause at the end of each exercise before the handler releases, pets, or praises the dog.

Praise and petting are allowed between and after exercises. The dog must remain under control between exercises to avoid deductions.

Section 7. Heel on Leash and Figure Eight

Description. The principal feature of this exercise is the ability of the dog and handler to work as a team.

The signs/markers used for this exercise are "Start," "Right Turn," "Left Turn," "About Turn," "Slow," "Normal," "Fast," and "Halt/Sit." Slow means to slow down noticeably and fast means the handler and dog must move forward at a noticeably accelerated speed. Turns will be used only when the handler is moving at a normal speed.

The handler will enter the ring with the dog on a loose leash and stand at the Start marker with the dog sitting in heel position. After pausing, the handler may give a command or signal to heel and will walk briskly and naturally with the dog on a loose leash. The dog should walk close to the handler's left side without moving wide away from, lagging behind, forging ahead of, or crowding the handler. The dog should not interfere with the handler's freedom of motion at any time. At each Halt/Sit marker the handler will stop and the dog should sit promptly and straight in heel position without a command or signal. After the last Halt/Sit and obvious pause, the exercise is finished, and the handler may release, pet and/or praise the dog, and move efficiently to begin the Figure Eight exercise. The Figure Eight posts will be spaced 8

feet apart. The handler and dog will move to the place indicated on the map for this exercise. The handler will stand with the dog sitting in heel position, slightly back and centered between the two posts, facing forward. The Figure Eight will be performed in the direction of the arrow. The team will complete one Figure Eight and halt/sit in the middle, pause, and then continue to complete the second Figure Eight with a halt/sit in the middle, and pause. After the second obvious pause, the exercise is finished, and the handler may release, pet and/or praise the dog, and move efficiently to begin the Down Stay exercise.

Section 8. Heel on Leash and Figure Eight, Scoring.

If the leash is consistently tight, i.e. not loose, or if the handler is constantly controlling the dog by tugging on the leash, constantly talking to the dog or is adapting to the dog's pace, that dog must receive a non-qualifying (NQ) score for this exercise.

Depending on the circumstances, minor or substantial deductions, will be made for a handler who does not pause at the start prior to moving forward, and after each halt/sit, for additional commands or signals to heel or for failure of dog or handler to speed up noticeably for the fast or slow down noticeably for the slow.

Minor or substantial deductions will be made for lagging, heeling wide, forging, crowding, poor sits, failure to sit at a halt and other heeling imperfections. Similar deductions will be made for any tightening or jerking of the leash, for a handler guiding the dog with the leash, or not walking at a brisk normal pace.

Section 9. Down Stay – Place Leash, Handler Walk Around the Ring

Description. The principal feature of this exercise is that the dog remains in the down position once the handler has left the dog and until the handler has returned to heel position.

The handler and dog will move to the place indicated on the map for this exercise. The handler will stand with the dog either sitting or standing in heel position. The handler will remove the leash, pause, and command and/or signal the dog to down. The handler may bend their body and knees while giving a signal, but then must immediately stand up and pause. If a signal is used, it must be given with the hand that is not holding the leash. The handler will give a command and/or signal to stay, then immediately leave the dog and proceed to place the leash on the leash holder, and then walk around the inside perimeter of the ring as indicated on the map.

Upon completing a full perimeter walk around the ring, the handler will approach the dog from the front, and proceed to walk around behind the dog to return to heel position. After an obvious pause, the exercise is finished, and the handler may release, pet and/or praise the dog, and move efficiently to begin the Stand for Examination exercise.

Section 10. Down Stay – Handler Walk Around the Ring, Scoring. A non-qualifying (NQ) score is required for any additional command and/or signal once the handler has left heel position, and for the dog moving a substantial distance away from the place where it was left any time during the exercise, not remaining in the down position until the handler has returned to heel position, and repeatedly barking or whining.

A substantial deduction will be made for a dog that moves even a short distance from where it was left, barks or whines only once or twice, or changes position after the handler has returned to the heel position but before the exercise is finished.

Section 11. Stand for Examination Description. The principal feature of this exercise is that the dog stand in position before and during the examination. The handler and dog will move to the

place indicated on the map for this exercise. The dog does not need to be in a sit to begin this exercise. The handler may stand/pose the dog by the method of the handler's choice, without being rough, taking reasonable time to pose the dog. The handler will then stand up in heel position, give the command and/or signal to stay, walk straight forward about 6 feet, turn, face the dog, and pause. The handler will then move forward to approach the dog from the front. Using the fingers and palm of either hand, the handler will briefly touch the dog's head, body, and hind quarters, and then walk around behind the dog to return to heel position. After an obvious pause, the exercise is finished, and the handler may release, pet, and/or praise the dog, and move efficiently to begin the Heel Free exercise.

Section 12. Stand for Examination, Scoring. A non-qualifying (NQ) score is required for the following: The dog sits, lies down, or moves away from the place where it was left either before or during the examination; the dog growls, snaps or displays fear or resentment; the handler gives an additional command and/or signal after leaving heel position. Substantial deductions will be made for rough treatment by the handler or active

resistance by the dog to stand. Minor or substantial deductions will be made for a dog that shows shyness, moves its feet at any time or sits and/or moves away after the examination has been completed.

Section 13. Heel Free, Performance and Scoring. This exercise will be performed the same as the Heel on Leash, using the same heeling pattern, but without either the leash or the Figure Eight. The scoring will be the same. Once the exercise is finished, after an obvious pause, the handler may release, pet, and/or praise the dog, and move efficiently to begin the Recall exercise.

Section 14. Recall Description. The principal features of this exercise are that the dog stay where left until called by the handler, and that the dog responds promptly to the handler's first command or signal to come.

The handler and dog will move to the place indicated on the map for this exercise. The handler will stand with the dog sitting in the heel position. The handler may command the dog to sit, pause, then give the command and/or signal to stay and walk forward to the second recall ring marker, turn to face the dog, and pause. The handler will

command or signal the dog to come. Thereafter, the handler's arms and hands should hang naturally at the sides until the dog has sat in front. The dog must come directly at a brisk trot or gallop and sit straight, centered in front of the handler. The dog must be close enough to its handler so that the handler could touch its head without excessive bending, stretching, or moving either foot. After an obvious pause, the handler will give a command or signal for the dog to finish, i.e. to move from the front position to heel position. The dog must go smartly to heel position and sit. The direction and manner in which the dog performs the finish is optional, provided it is prompt and that the dog sits straight at heel. After an obvious pause, the exercise is finished, and the handler may release, pet and/or praise the dog and move efficiently to begin the Sit Stay exercise.

Section 15. Recall, Scoring. A dog must receive a non-qualifying (NQ) score if it is given an additional command and/or signal to stay, if it fails to come on the first command or signal, if it moves from the place it was left before being called or signaled to come, or if it does not sit close enough to its handler so that the handler could touch its head without excessive bending, stretching or moving either foot.

Substantial deductions will be made for a handler's extra command or signal to sit or finish and for a dog that fails to remain sitting and either stands or lies down, fails to come at a brisk trot or gallop, fails to sit in front, or fails to finish or sit at heel.

Minor or substantial deductions will be made for slow or poor sits, for finishes that are not prompt or smart, for touching the handler on coming in or while finishing, and for sitting between the handler's feet.

Section 16. Sit Stay – Get Your Leash

Description. The principal feature of this exercise is that the dog remains in the sit position.

The handler and dog will move to the place indicated on the map for this exercise. The handler will stand with the dog sitting in heel position. The handler may command and/or signal the dog to sit without touching either the dog or the dog's collar. The handler will give a command and/or signal to stay and will walk forward immediately to the leash holder, pick up the leash, turn, face the dog and pause. After an obvious pause, the handler will return directly, walking around and behind the dog to heel position and pause. The dog must not move from the sitting position until released after an

obvious pause. The handler will clip leash to the dog's collar and exit the ring with the dog under control and without jumping, pulling or tugging on the leash.

Section 17. Sit Stay – Get Your Leash,

Scoring. A non-qualifying score (NQ) is required for the following: The dog moving a substantial distance away from the place where it was left any time during the exercise, not remaining in the sit position until the handler has returned to heel position, and repeatedly barking or whining.

Substantial deductions will be made for a dog that moves even a short distance from where it was left, that barks or whines only once or twice, or that changes from the sit position after the handler has returned to the heel position but before an obvious pause by the handler. A substantial deduction, under Miscellaneous Penalties, must be made for a dog that does not remain under control while exiting the ring.

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

AKC Canine Partners – an American Kennel Club program that is available to spayed/neutered dogs that are not currently eligible for AKC registration, AKC Foundation Stock Service (FSS) enrollment, or an AKC Purebred Alternative Listing (PAL) number.

Brisk, briskly – keenly alive, alert, energetic.

Command – verbal order from handler to dog.

Crowding – a dog so close to the handler as to interfere with the handler's freedom of motion.

Directly – immediately, without deviation or hesitation.

Down – the dog's body is on the ground; the dog's weight is off the feet and legs.

Finish – the dog goes from a position in front of the handler to the heel position.

Gently – with kindness, without harshness or roughness.

Guiding gently by the collar – control of the dog by holding any part of the collar with minimal pressure on the dog's neck.

Leash Holder – an item identified as a place to put the leash during the class.

Minor deduction – 1/2 point to 2 1/2 points.

Natural – not artificial; free of affectation; what is customarily expected in the home or public places.

Prompt response – without hesitation, immediate, quick.

Resentment – resistance, unwillingness.

Ring – performance area, resembles a rectangle, four corners must be marked, void of obstacles that obstruct the judge's view.

Signal – nonverbal direction from the handler to dog, as described in Chapter 1, Section 16.

Sit – the dog has its rear and/or hocks on the ground.

Smartly – quickly, vigorously.

Substantial deduction – 3 points or more.

Training session – as related to where a student-handler/teacher-judge relationship is established, with or without compensation.

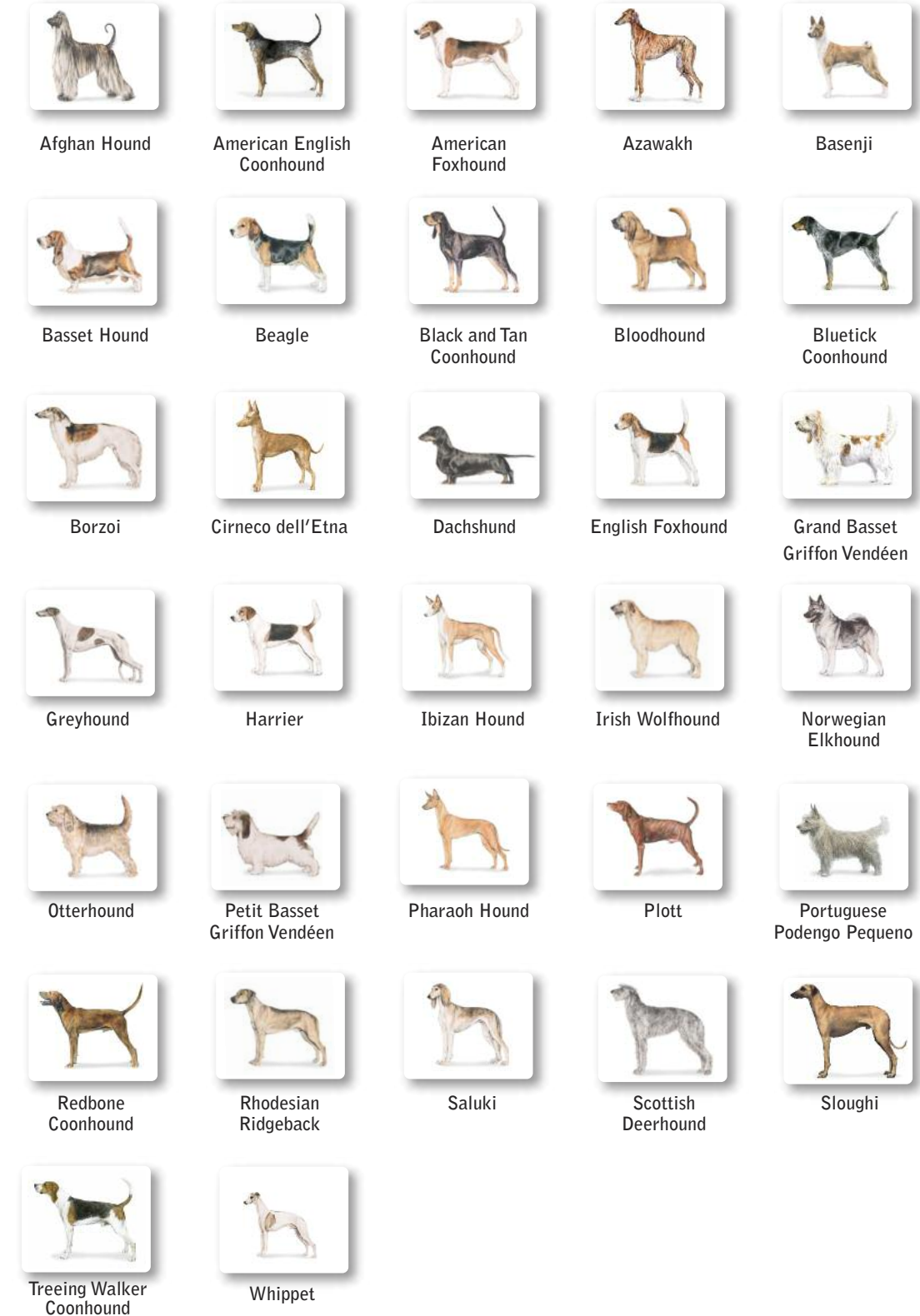
PARENT CLUB LINKS



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



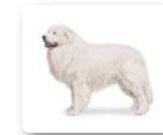
German Pinscher



Giant Schnauzer



Great Dane



Great Pyrenees



Greater Swiss Mountain Dog



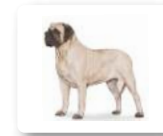
Komondor



Leonberger



Kuvasz



Mastiff



Neapolitan Mastiff



Newfoundland



Portuguese Water Dog



Rottweiler



Saint Bernard



Samoyed



Siberian Husky



Standard Schnauzer



Tibetan Mastiff

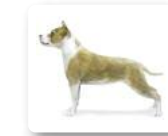
TERRIER GROUP



Airedale Terrier



American Hairless Terrier



American Staffordshire Terrier



Australian Terrier



Bedlington Terrier



Border Terrier



Bull Terrier



Cairn Terrier



Cesky Terrier



Dandie Dinmont Terrier



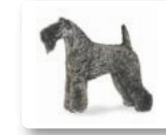
Fox Terrier (Smooth)



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



Brussels Griffon



Cavalier King Charles Spaniel



Chihuahua



Chinese Crested



English Toy Spaniel



Havanese



Italian Greyhound



Japanese Chin



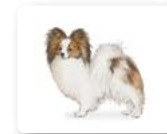
Maltese



Manchester Terrier (Toy)



Miniature Pinscher



Papillon



Pekingese



Pomeranian



Poodle (Toy)



Pug



Shih Tzu



Silky Terrier



Toy Fox Terrier



Yorkshire Terrier

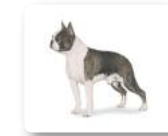
NON-SPORTING GROUP



American Eskimo Dog



Bichon Frise



Boston Terrier



Bulldog



Chinese Shar-Pei



Chow Chow



Coton de Tulear



Dalmatian



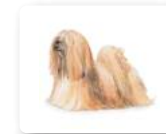
Finnish Spitz



French Bulldog



Keeshond



Lhasa Apso



Löwchen



Norwegian Lundehund



Poodle (Miniature)



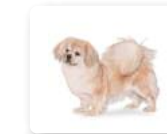
Schipperke



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/>