



Perspectives

The Delegates' Newsletter

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December 2022



Perspectives

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The Delegates' Newsletter



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Elizabeth Trail,
Green Mountain Dog Club, Inc.

WRITERS' GUIDELINES

Thank you for your interest in contributing to *Perspectives*. Following are guidelines we ask our contributors to follow. They simplify our jobs as editors and yours as writers and help us produce a quality publication while enabling us to get *Perspectives* out on time.

- **Write for your audience.** *Perspectives* is prepared by and for AKC Delegates who represent a wide variety of member clubs through the country. Our readers are very knowledgeable dog people.
- **Be certain that any facts in your article are accurate.** Double-check them. Clearly state when a statement is your own opinion.
- Whenever possible and appropriate, **try to include input/quotes from others who are experts on your topic.** Always attribute any quote to its original source.
- **Articles should be submitted typewritten or electronically, via e-mail.** Solicited articles should be sent to the committee member who requested the article. Unsolicited articles should be submitted to the Issue Coordinator for the upcoming issue OR the Editor.
- **We suggest** articles be approximately **500 to 1500 words** in length.
- Do not rely solely on spelling and grammar check, as they do not proof word usage. **After preparing your article, read it once more before submitting it.** Use a dictionary to check word meaning and spelling.
- **Send in your article electronically, as early as possible.** Submissions will be due by the 15th of the month following each Delegates Meeting. If your article arrives after the issue deadline, it may

not be used in the current issue and may be returned to you or held until the next issue.

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- **Any product in the name of a committee** must be approved for release by the committee prior to publication in *Perspectives*.

Again — thank you for your interest. Without you, there would not be a *Perspectives*.

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Perspectives

The Delegates' Newsletter

Perspectives is a publication for, and written by, the Delegates, with an occasional article solicited by Editorial Board members ONLY from acknowledged experts in their field. It is a forum for the exchange of ideas, for argument, for news. Through this medium, we hope to become better informed and, thereby, better equipped to fulfill our responsibilities as Delegates. Your contributions are welcome, and necessary, in making this publication a useful enterprise. Please assist the Editorial Board by submitting material via e-mail. We reserve the right to reasonably edit all copy submitted. Opinions expressed in Perspectives are not necessarily representative of the views of the Editor, the Perspectives Editorial Board, or of the American Kennel Club.

FROM WHERE I SIT

SYLVIA THOMAS, Editor/Chair

INTRODUCTION



It is over for another year. In this case “it” is my kennel club’s annual dog shows. I’m still as involved as I was 30 years ago, working long hours, coordinating everything from judges’ hospitality, ring steward assignments,

meals for judges, members, and volunteers, serving as the liaison between club and venue director, and a host of other you name it, I do it jobs. Truth be told, I’m probably more involved now because I’m retired and presumably have more time. My exhaustion and “whining” prompted a close friend to ask why I still do this and ask the more important question, is it time to walk away. Honestly, a week before the show, I’m not certain I could give you an answer that could be printed. Today, as I make notes about things to change/improve for next year, new events to consider, and ways to grow and become more visible, the answer is clear. Not yet and not now.

The morning of our show, as I looked around at our show grounds in a beautiful state park on the bank of Lake Perris, the hours of work faded away and what remained was a sense of pride and excitement. Soon, the quiet would be filled with the sounds of dogs, exhibitors, judges, and casual observers. This is what it’s all about, evaluating our dogs, working with them, and enjoying time with others who share our passion.

Bottom line, dog shows are a huge part of my life. This is who I am and what I have loved for nearly 40 years. My conclusion: there’s still work to be done, good times ahead, and hope for the future of the Sport. I may stop at some point, but not today.

We, and yes that includes me, frequently voice the concern that our Clubs’ memberships are diminishing in size. In some cases, our members remain active, but are no longer able to physically meet the demands

of hosting shows and events. Some also suffer from the “been there done that” syndrome and feel it’s time to pass the torch, but to whom?

Sharyn Hutchens and Sylva Thomas write about opportunities and ideas available through Club Development to grow our clubs. The answer might be a “pupalooza” designed to raise community interest in what dog clubs have to offer or an AKC 101 Show Seminar which provides information about hosting dog shows and events. The best part is Guy Fisher and his department do everything to make these events happen. All you have to do is contact him.

In this issue, you’ll get to know AKC’s CFO Ted Phillips, the man in the suit who tracks revenue, expenses, and financial planning. Outside the office Ted enjoys a full and interesting life.

Blaine Grove introduces us to the next step for Juniors. Read about the concept of transforming their role from competitors to judges. It’s always interesting and sometimes surprising how someone got started in dogs. Two Delegates, Don James and Kathy Gregory share their stories. We hope you’ll consider being the next to share!

Sheila Goffe provides an update on the recent Dog Detection Conference and the Puppy Patriot Program. Turns out the use of dogs for defense and in a war effort is not new. Carmen Battaglia writes about how this all started and where the dogs came from.

Don James relates information about his club’s application for and receipt of state funds for COVID-related losses. What club doesn’t need money? This is something we might all want to explore.

In this issue we remember those who have passed. They were advocates, mentors, friends and “dog people.” We appreciate their dedication and commitment and miss them dearly.

Finally, thank you to all who shared their wonderful holiday photos with us. The centerfold is a lovely holiday greeting to all, and we thank you for sharing the joy of the season. Happy Holidays and may 2023 bless us with health and happiness!

We are delighted



that the interest in submitting articles to *Perspectives* is increasing. Please send your article as a **Word document** and **not a pdf**. The latter may not convert accurately to text format and sometimes requires a total rekeying of the article. **Thanks for your understanding and please keep the articles coming!**

AS I SEE IT

MONICA HENDERSON STONER, Assistant Editor

OPINION



Modern communication is a wondrous thing. Where once we waited for weeks to learn what happened across the country, then for days, and with the advent of the telephone, sometimes mere hours, we can now know almost as the event occurs.

In an emergency, we don't have to wait for a public broadcast, and we can personally reach out to friends who might be in danger.

Unfortunately, this same speed of communication is available to spread disruption and unhappiness to an unlimited audience. Let a whiff of unpleasantness, a spark of scandal, waft across the scene and it can flare into an all-consuming conflagration, destroying all in its path.

The actual facts are never as interesting or important as the story. Corrections or retractions, if any, are tossed aside.

There are dogs involved, we say. We **MUST** protect the dogs. No argument here, our dogs must come first. But all too often we forget there are people involved as well. People who might be evil but are just as likely to be misjudged, ill, or just plain overwhelmed. As we age, as our circumstances change, our idyllic lives could start to unravel, leaving us without the resources we once had, whether financial or personal. And too often our dogs suffer along with us.

It might be the surviving partner does not have the affinity for the dogs as the one who has died. After much thought the partner seeks to place the dogs and faces heavy condemnation for a decision made in the best interest of all parties. Accusations fly, many landing in the public whipping post of social media. So, in addition to losing their partner of many years, they also read horrible things about themselves, their partner, their lives.

It might be a person is unwell and **WISELY** admits they can no longer care for their dogs. Good people in the breed are trying to help while others busy themselves pointing fingers

and spreading malicious gossip. The person is vilified for trying to be responsible.

It might be a breeder who becomes concerned about a condition they are observing in their own dogs, and they ask a question to gather more information from other breeders. Next thing anyone knows that breeder is now identified as someone who bred or breeds faulty, unhealthy dogs.

Perhaps a judge is labeled unable to see the correct end of the leash. A handler entertains and is pointed out as currying favors. Friendship or favoritism is said to be the underlying reason for a big win, instead of on that day the judge believed this was the best dog, to the exclusion of any other factors.

Whispers flow about the litter of six that was actually a litter of ten before the breeder lost some, and that breeder is said to be incompetent, has too many dogs, should get out of the game before they're too old. With little thought to the grief a breeder feels when losing puppies.

I don't think anyone can claim to have never shared negative opinions, even when we know we need to remember, 'judge not, lest ye be judged.' In the era of written, mailed letters, then telephones, the sharing was at least semi-private. But those are the good old days. Now we write on a public screen, sharing our stories around the globe, often with no more proof than 'I heard,' all too often accompanied by 'isn't it awful.' With the assertion that sometimes the story is just too good not to be shared.

These stories are not just shared among us. They are heard outside our sport, and people who might consider joining us, or staying in the game, decide the environment is too toxic for them, and they have better things to do with their spare time or money. They can still love their dogs without competing, without becoming involved in clubs or events, without exposing themselves and their families to a negative environment. We want these people to join us, to stay in the game, and to be ready to take over when we retire.

Let's try to remember there are people behind every story.

DETECTION DOG CONFERENCE OFFERS PRACTICAL INFORMATION AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR BREEDERS & TRAINERS

SHEILA GOFFE, Vice President, Government Relations

Explosives detection dogs play a crucial role in U.S. safety and security at home and abroad, but unlike other vital national security tools, the United States is importing approximately 85-90% of its bomb dogs. This deficit leaves the U.S. captive to other countries for a key national security input, and begs the question, Why aren't we relying on U.S. breeders?

The AKC Detection Dog Task Force (DDTF) is working to answer this question and reverse the threat.

This past August, after a two-year pandemic-related hiatus, the Detection Dog Task Force resumed the AKC National Detection Dog Conference in Durham, NC. The two-day event was attended by more than a hundred terrorism experts, law enforcement officials, U.S. military officials and AKC dog breeders committed to addressing the grave shortage of high-quality explosives detection dogs.

The theme of this year's National Detection Dog Conference was "bringing together stakeholders to improve domestic availability of high-quality, American-bred, -raised, and -trained dogs to protect U.S. national and public security".

A breakdown of attendees revealed the sought-after diversity in stakeholders: approximately 30% breeders, 20% Patriotic Puppy program participants, 15% police/military and government, and another 10% potential puppy purchasers.

"I was pleased to see the wide range of participants at this conference," said DDTF Co-Chairman Christopher Sweetwood. "For possibly the first time, AKC breeders had the opportunity to meet with law enforcement, professional detection dog handlers, and other industry professionals to share challenges, goals, and ideas on how to build a better detection dog."

"This conference provided a really unique opportunity for breeders, including participants in AKC's Patriotic Puppy Program, to network with trainers, industry leaders, and researchers from the detector dog world," said Stacey West, Manager of the AKC

Patriotic Puppy Program.

The AKC Patriotic Puppy program is part of the DDTF's breeder education initiative and works directly with AKC breeders to help them breed and raise puppies through 12 months of age. Puppies that are suitable for purchase continue in the program with advanced training as highly specialized detection dogs working with the military, federal agencies, and law enforcement to protect U.S. security and safety at home and abroad.

A highlight of the conference was a special program for participants in the AKC Patriotic Puppy

This conference provided a really unique opportunity for breeders, including participants in AKC's Patriotic Puppy Program, to network with trainers, industry leaders and researchers from the detector dog world

program, featuring a one-on-one session with top detection dog trainers (and regular webinar participants) Tim Baird of MK9 Solutions, Bart Rogers of Auburn University's Canine Performance Sciences Department, and Stacey West (AKC). Many Patriotic Puppy program participants met each other in

person for the first time and had the opportunity to network, share experiences, and receive one-on-one mentoring from the expert trio. The program concluded with recognition and presentation of awards for participant's accomplishments and successful deployments.

More than 23 panelists and presenters participated in the event, which emphasized practical information of value to all stakeholders, but especially breeders, puppy-raisers, trainers, and buyers. They provided real, practical resources to improve opportunities for each sector to work together more closely to advance breeding, raising, training, purchase, and deployment of U.S. dogs for domestic law enforcement and security.

"I was delighted in the high marks given to the speakers and panelists," said Dr. Carmen Battaglia, DDTF Co-Chair. "The speakers were great. They provided thoughtful and useful answers to a wide range of questions."

Panels and presentations included:

- Financing a K-9 Cop: AKC Reunite's Program and Practical Advice from USPCA. In this panel, AKC Board Member Christopher

Sweetwood introduced the AKC Reunite Adopt a K-9 Cop program, which provides grants for law enforcement to obtain a police K-9 that best meets their community's needs. Sweetwood noted that in the last year alone, more than 200 AKC Reunite funded K-9s have been deployed across the country, providing communities and their law enforcement with much-needed tools to make their communities safer. U.S. Police Canine Association Executive Director Don Slavik shared the basics of what various law enforcement agencies look for in a K-9, and how the AKC Reunite Adopt a K-9 Cop program has revolutionized funding opportunities that enable local communities to obtain a quality K-9.

- Federal Procurement of Detection Dogs – What Different Agencies are Looking For. This panel included expert analyses from Brandon Peters and Shawn Farrens of the TSA's Canine Training Center; and Monica Errico of the USDA's National Detector Dog Training Center.
- Detection Dog Industry Outlook and Forecast. This panel included expertise from Kevin Beck, Executive Vice President of the Global K-9 Protection Group; Lane Kjellsen, CEO of K2 Solutions Inc.; Nicholas King, Founder of Von Der King (VDK) Kennels and Training; and Heather Leigh, Vice President of Arete Canine.
- National Standards and Certification for Explosive Detection Dogs. David Kontny, Chief of Staff for the FBI's Joint Program Office of Countering Improvised Explosives Devices provided an update on newly revised federal standards and certifications for Explosives Detection Dogs.
- Scalability of a Detection Dog Program. In this presentation, Lane Kjellsen explained how breeders can scale up their programs to meet requirements for government contracts.
- Early Prediction of Puppies' Suitability for Detection Careers. Dr. Lucia Lazarowski of the Auburn University School of Veterinary Medicine presented her recently published work on assessing puppies' aptitude for future work as a detection dog.
- AKC & Breeding Data – What an Analysis of Top Retriever Pedigrees Reveals for the Development of Detection Dogs. The DDTF's Subject Matter Expert and Patriotic Puppy Program Manager, Stacey West, presented information showing the striking impact of pedigree on breeding the most successful field trial dogs. This is relevant because attributes of field trial dogs are very similar to those of detection dogs.
- Update in Genetic/Genomic Research Impacting Detection Dogs. AKC's new Executive Director of the AKC DNA program, Dr. Claire Wiley, provided an update on considerations for breeding detection dogs.
- "From breeding to puppy training to procurement processes, the conversations throughout the conference have increased the understanding of the needs of the entire industry," West said. "We are better equipped to address the shortage of quality detector dogs than ever before."

The next AKC National Detection Dog Conference is already in the works for 2024. In the meantime, the task force will continue to sponsor regular webinars, educational programs, breeder assistance and public policy outreach to help address the shortage of US-bred, raised and trained explosives detection dogs. To learn more about this program, as well as conference presentations and panels, visit www.akc.org/edc

The AKC has a long history of providing dogs, or solutions regarding canines, for governments and law enforcement. During World War II, AKC and AKC clubs were strong supporters of "Dogs For Defense", a program that trained pets for potential roles in the battlefields of that war.

In 2016, representatives from the Transportation Security Administration reached out to the American Kennel Club, seeking assistance with obtaining U.S. -bred detection dogs in light of a global shortage of high-quality detection dogs. Later that year the AKC Board of Directors established the Detection Dog Task Force (DDTF) to study the specific areas in which the AKC could help address the crisis of a shortage of high-quality explosives detection dogs crucial to protecting U.S. national security and public safety.

DDTF members learned that the U.S. not only relies on outsourcing for explosives detection dogs, it does not have access to the best dogs raised. The lack of a consistent and reliable American-based source for these dogs is a vital deficit in U.S. public safety and security.

Other challenges include lack of support for U.S. breeders, lack of appropriate pricing and economic incentives for U.S. breeders, poor transparency and communication from federal agencies about standards and requirements, a complex and intimidating federal contracting process, and concerns about treatment of the dogs after they are acquired by the government.

The DDTF, co-chaired by AKC Board Members Dr. Carmen Battaglia and Christopher Sweetwood, works to address these complex challenges. Other members of the Task Force include AKC Board members Rita Biddle, Dominic Carota, and Ann Wallin; and AKC staff Mark Dunn, Sheila Goffe, Doug Ljungren, Melissa Ferrell, and Stacey West. The AKC Government Relations (GR) team provides staff leadership and implementation.

Today, the AKC DDTF represents knowledgeable experts on the complex issue. GR staff focuses on three key areas of outreach to reverse government reliance on overseas dogs:

- Impacting public policy (government relations) including legislation to improve government purchasing policy and practices. Recent efforts in this area include language in the 2022 and 2023 U.S. National Defense Authorization bills to provide funding to advance research on working dog health and to prioritize consideration of a minimum number of U.S.-bred dogs for Defense Department contracts.
- Outreach to the public and to stakeholders to raise awareness of the issue and the value of dog breeders whose efforts help protect our national security; as well as to share best practices, and create solutions. The DDTF and staff offer a wide variety of resources and expertise to lawmakers, industry officials and the public. This includes the AKC National DDTF Conference, more than a dozen webinars, and expertise and outreach to the media.
- Breeder Education to help U.S. breeders understand the specific requirements for producing and raising a high-quality US-bred, -raised and -trained detection dog. AKC's Patriotic Puppy Program provides one-on-one instruction and mentoring to breeders interested in raising a puppy for detection work. All aspects of the process are covered in the program, from breeding through government contracting, and everything in between. The Patriotic Puppy Program has worked with approximately 95 breeder/puppy-raiser participants from 34 states, including Puerto Rico. The recently released Confident Puppy online training course on the AKC Canine College platform leverages expertise provided in the Patriotic Puppy Program or developed by other experts to help breeders raise dogs that can go on for advanced training as detection dogs or other working or performance careers. The course is currently available at no cost.

To learn more about the DDTF, visit www.akc.org/edc or contact doglaw@akc.org

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HOW I GOT STARTED IN DOGS: KARMA

DON JAMES, Delegate, Leonberger Club of America, Perspectives Editorial Board

I got started in dogs because of one word: Karma.

My involvement with purebred dogs has lasted just a little over 22 years, not even close to most of my Delegate friends. But I remember that day clearly. It was in January of 2000, and I was reading an article in the Sunday paper about a dog show in my area. Unbeknownst to me at the time,

the show was the famous Rose City Classic in Portland Oregon. Now, I've had dogs for most of my life, but they were always rescues or adoptions, never any thought of a purebred. I didn't have any plans that day and thought that sounded like fun so off I went. Truth be told, I'd always been fond of the giant breeds (Newfs, Saints etc.) but I remember the feeling I got when I walked into that building and saw all

of those dogs. I doubt I knew a single person there, but I felt immediately that this was someplace I really belonged. Undeterred, and with my show catalog in hand, I found the ring where Saint Bernards were showing. When I arrived, a fellow was standing there with 3 giant Saints in tow. As I stood watching, he approached me and asked if I'd mind holding two of those monsters while he took the third into the ring. As you can imagine, I was in dog heaven. Several years later a fellow judged one of our Leonberger Regional Specialties and I realized that he was the same guy who had asked me to hold his dogs several years before. It was the late Stan Zielinski, one of the most well-known Saint breeders in the country.

I was hooked. I made inquiries with several Oregon based Saint breeders and had a brief brush with thinking about a Pyr or a Newf. I had become interested in a co-own for a Saint Bernard, but shortly thereafter, the second part of my journey began with something as simple as a trip to my local Barnes & Noble bookstore. I was looking at

dog magazines and came across an issue of Dogs Today, a magazine from England. A monthly feature in that magazine was an article about a rare breed. I still have the copy of that magazine because, on Page 24, that month's rare breed was a Leonberger. In reading the article, I realized I was looking at a dog that was a combination of the 3

breeds I had become interested in. It's hard to ignore that kind of Karma, so I decided to dig a little deeper into this breed that seemed so magnificent but one I'd seen only in pictures in a magazine.

The Karma continued as it turned out that several weeks after my bookstore experience, I found out there was a Leonberger Regional Specialty in Washington just a couple hours north of where I live. I made immediate plans to attend. Recall that, to this



point, I had never actually seen a real live Leonberger. When I walked into the building, you could have knocked me over with a feather. I'd never seen a more beautiful dog. Little did I realize that the first Leonberger I ever put my hands at that show would become the first Leonberger I would ever own, but more on that later. More Karma. I joined the Leonberger Club of America (LCA) shortly thereafter and got on the club's mailing list. There, I learned that the 2000 National Specialty was being held in Seaside, Oregon the very next month. Seaside is 70 miles from where I live. I signed up and volunteered for everything available, registration, stewarding, and, of course, poop patrol. I remember going to my first annual meeting where each person stood up introduced themselves and talked briefly about their Leos. I was the only person who stood up and announced that I didn't have one. To say I was hooked would be a massive understatement. In the space of just 3 months, I had gone from not even being able to spell Leonberger to an easy decision to jump feet

HOW I GOT STARTED

first into this spectacular breed.

So, in 2001, I flew to the National in Delevan, Wisconsin with the goal of making inroads on getting a puppy. It was cool because people were getting to know me and realized I was pretty serious about my involvement with this breed. As it turned out, another friend told me about a breeder in British Columbia who had decided to rehome one of her boys, who had become sterile for some unknown reason. As I said earlier that dog was the first Leo I ever put my hands on. His name was Jake. At the time, he was just shy of 2 years old and was a magnificent example of the breed. So, in June of 2001, a trip to Canada to pick up my new boy. I remember looking in the rearview mirror on the way home and thinking about this crazy journey I had just begun. Jake was my super therapy dog. We made over 150 trips to Shriner's Children's Hospital visiting kids who had just returned from surgery. Jake was a legend up there. I imagine there may have been 2 people there who knew my name,



but everyone knew Jake. I always remember one evening when we were getting ready to leave, the floor receptionist called me over and told me that when Jake and I come onto the floor, the entire mood changes. everyone gets happy. Don't think I've ever been the recipient of such a strong confirma-

tion of the power our dogs possess.

This breed has led to international travel, my role as our Club's first AKC Delegate, my work with the AKC Parent Club Committee, dogs who have earned 40 Best in Show awards and titles in Draft and Barn Hunt, and therapy. But most importantly, I've made great friends here in the U.S. and literally all over the world. It's safe to say that these dogs have become a focus in my life. This journey culminated in 2019 when I became the 19th recipient of the Heinrich Essig Award for lifetime achievement as a member of the Leonberger Club of America.

All because I just happened to read an article in my local newspaper.

The Editorial staff is always on the lookout for an **interesting storyline, a captivating photo, or an idea** for an ongoing feature. If you ever wonder if something would make a good article for *Perspectives*, reach out and ask. The answer is almost certainly "yes!" Contact any of us to get started. We welcome your ideas and enjoy receiving your photos and sharing them.

WHAT I DIDN'T KNOW: AKC 101 SHOW CHAIR

SYLVIA THOMAS, Delegate, Kennel Club of Riverside, Perspectives Editor

AKC 101

My club wants to grow, try new events, and expand, but we are realistic about our limitations. We are small, only 16 members. As is true in most clubs, involvement varies depending on personal responsibilities, work schedules, etc. It's time to 'grow our members'



not just in terms of numbers, but in breadth and depth of knowledge. We need to mentor the newer, less experienced members and share details about the 'how to's' of different roles and responsibilities, such as show chair. If you're looking for help in

this regard, Club Development is a great source of information and support. I would encourage you to reach out to Guy Fisher for help in arranging for an AKC Seminar.

While the title of the seminar specifically mentions Show Chair, in my opinion any club member would greatly benefit from the information provided, as it raises awareness of what is involved in putting on shows and events and the role of AKC. More importantly, the seminar highlights opportunities for clubs to consider for growth and increasing visibility as well as answering a multitude of questions.

Kennel Club of Riverside was recently the site of Guy Fisher's AKC 101 Show Chair Seminar. I worked with Guy to arrange a suitable space for the seminar, and he did the rest. His expectation on attendance (10-15) was greatly

exceeded as the room filled with closer to 20-25 participants each day. Two 90-minute seminars were scheduled over the show weekend.

Seminar announcements and reservations were available online. Topics included everything a Show Chair and/or a member of a show-giving club should know:

- Understanding AKC paperwork
- Difference between Superintendent, Show Secretary, and Package Shows
- Premium list, listing important information and using correct verbiage
- Judging Program/Scheduling and working with a superintendent
- Show manual along with updates and checklists
- Offering multiple events on a weekend
- Improving club membership
- Ways AKC can help with city/county legislation and the importance of Government Relations
- Ways to increase community awareness
- Assistance with communication and written agreements between clubs
- How to maximize AKC to your club's benefit

As a Guiding Principle, consider Club Relations the "Go To Department" for anything related to your club's by-laws, shows, events, membership, community relations, or other questions. From my vantage point, the show chair seminar was highly interactive and very well received. If asked, I have no doubt attendees would give Guy and the seminar an A+.

A NON-SCENT SEEK & FIND

It's not the Lottery, but the odds are better.

You can be a WINNER!

On what page can the word **guiding** be found?

The first Delegate to contact Monica Henderson Stoner tsent@ix.netcom will win a Starbucks gift card.



COULD YOUR LOCAL KENNEL CLUB BENEFIT FROM A COVID-RELATED RECOVERY GRANT?

DON JAMES, Delegate, Leonberger Club of America, Perspectives Editorial Staff

As I begin writing this, I will confess that the state in which your kennel club is located might or might not have a program like the one I'm about to describe. I do know the state of Washington does have such a program. That's where I am and where I currently serve as the President of The Greater Clark County Kennel Club (GCCCKC).

I don't know of any club that wasn't affected by the Covid 19 pandemic. Most clubs lost or had to severely curtail or completely cancel shows in both 2020 and 2021 due to virus related lockdowns imposed in all 50 states.

The economic impact for both the clubs and businesses that count on revenue from shows was significant, with apparently no way to recoup those losses. I say apparently because there is a recovery road map in the state of Washington and I'd be surprised if that were the only state in the country making a similar offering.

I'll explain how our club found out about this and what we did (and are doing) to apply for this Covid relief grant. It's unlikely every state has the same administrative structure, so I'm going to relate what we did in general terms in an attempt to get you started with an investigation of similar grant offerings in your own state.

For background, we maintain a close working relationship with the people who run the Fairgrounds where we stage our annual December shows (All Breed and Performance Weekend). It's unlikely we would ever have heard about this opportunity if Kathy Sula, the Events Manager of the Clark County Fairgrounds, had not told our club Delegate Karen Burgess about the program. Here's the lowdown:

Washington has an economic recovery program sponsored by the Washington Festival & Events Association (WFEA), a state government agency. The WFEA website explains the reason for the program this way:

"The Grant program is designed for Legacy-level events which refers to events that have taken place in the community for five or more years and draw visitors. Funding supports

events in communities of less than 100,000 residents (based on the 2020 Census). Funding supports the 2022 calendar year. Grants are designed to either restart and stabilize 'legacy-level' festival and events suspended in 2020 and 2021, recover from disruptions and losses due to the COVID-19 pandemic, or both. Covered expenses include deposits on infrastructure (security, temporary fencing, staging, lights, sound equipment, etc.) and staff and labor costs. Grants range from \$5,000 to \$35,000. Award amounts are based on need and demonstrated losses."

In order to apply for the grant, we (our club) had to join WFEA for an annual fee of \$95, \$125, or \$195, a fee based on the applying organization's annual budget. Once we joined, we were asked to attend a seminar presented by WFEA which explained the requirements to apply as well as some information on how available funds would be distributed. We were asked to provide financial statements and tax forms (Form 990) and P&Ls for the years prior to the shutdown and, if we didn't already have one, procure a Unique Business Identifier Number (UBI), a Federal Employee Identification Number (EIN) and a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI). According to Howard Scott, GCCCKC's Treasurer, if your club doesn't already have these numbers they are not difficult to obtain.

For this first round, the pool of money was a robust \$3 million dollars. Karen, Howard, and I assembled the required paperwork and sent in the application.

Several weeks later, we received word that our club had been awarded \$11,000.00 in WFEA grant money. I do not know of any clubs who would not benefit from a cash infusion of \$11,000.00. Pretty good ROI as they say.

We have also applied for another significantly larger program (\$35 Million in grants) for clubs in cities of any size (not with the 100,000 or fewer limitation given on the first grant). We have approached this 2nd grant application in much the same manner



using the same mantra we had for the first one.....” If we get \$10, it’s \$10 we didn’t have,” Yesterday, we received news that we’ve been awarded an additional \$38,000 from the second WFEA Program for the second grant application. If my math is correct, that means my club now has \$53,000 in our bank account that wasn’t there two months ago.

For those interested in reading about this program, the URL for the WFEA website is:

<https://www.arts.wa.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/WFEA-Grant-Program-Guidelines.pdf> (or click on the image above).

Again, I’ll close with my opening caveat, I have no idea if other states have similar programs, but if we got at least \$11,000 from our application, it would certainly seem worth some level of investigation by your club to see if similar opportunities are available in your state. Sure worked for my club.



MEET THE AKC STAFF: TED PHILLIPS

SHARYN HUTCHENS, Delegate, Shenandoah Valley Kennel Club, Perspectives Editorial Board

Ted Phillips was elected by the AKC Board as Chief Financial Officer on May 18, 2020. Most of us have seen Ted from a distance. He's the man in the suit who steps up to the podium at each Delegates' meeting to deliver what we hope is the good news about AKC's financial standing. With over 30 years' experience in Finance and Asset Management, Ted is uniquely qualified for the position. Like all of us, Ted has a very full life away from the office rich with family, interests, and hobbies. We hope you enjoy this special glimpse of Ted in his own words and thank him for sharing it with us. Here's Ted!

Tell us about yourself! Hobbies, family, any pets, and other interests.

My wife Zoe and I are very fortunate to have three children, ages 27 to 33, and our grandchild, Aidan James, who is two years old. Our oldest teaches ESL, our middle is a Product Specialist for Tactile Medical, and Irish Dance Teacher, TCRG (Irish dance certified), and our youngest just completed a Ph.D. in Molecular Biology. We are skiers and hikers and enjoy travel to various ski resorts in the Northeast and Western United States. I am an avid wildlife and landscape photographer,

registered merit badge counselor for the Boy Scouts of America, and Licensed Ham Radio Operator.

If you own a dog or dogs, tell us about the dog. Are you or your dog involved in AKC-related activities, like dog shows, AKC sports, etc.

I grew up with AKC Miniature Schnauzers and have been involved with rescues for the past twenty years. Most recently, we had a mixed breed 'Vizsla-Labrador.'

Where are you from originally?

Born in Queens County, NY, Kew Gardens, and raised in Farmingdale, NY.

Please tell us about your background, education, and work history prior to AKC.

I graduated with an MBA in Finance from St John's University in Queens County. My Bachelor's Degree in Accounting was a solid foundation that led me to work at Deloitte, serving both Investment Companies and Exempt organizations. I worked as the Controller of the Merrill Lynch Foundation and Family Offices until Carnegie Hall was seeking a Director of Finance. Carnegie Hall was a unique and extraordinary experience meeting so many



Back row (l to r): Ted, Zoe, grandson Aidan, with Stephanie and husband Gavin, son Andrew, and Victoria's friend Chris. Front row: Mom, (Marcia) and daughter Victoria

HUTCHENS, cont'd

people and helping the Board build a vision for the future of music education. My interest in investment management was met with an opportunity to work at a \$1 billion endowment fund for the United Church of Christ. We served over 1,100 clients ranging from small endowments to over \$300 million.

What about AKC attracted you to your position?

The AKC mission, the dedication of responsible dog owners, and my colleagues. Also, during my time at Deloitte, I was the Audit Manager on the AKC engagement for two years when the offices were at 51 Madison Ave. When I learned about the CFO opportunity, I was thrilled to interview at AKC and hear that the Roosevelt Room pictures I had been shown in 1991 were still on display in the NYC offices at 101 Park.

What is the major source of AKC's money?

Two Key Lines of Revenue: Registrations of Litters and Dogs and Recording/Service Fees. These two areas comprise 75% of total revenue and truly define the mission statement of AKC. New and growing lines of revenue that point to new audiences and engagement are sponsorship revenue, advertising, and e-commerce.

Where does AKC's money go? What are AKC's biggest expenses?

These are very basic questions that experienced Delegates probably know the answers to, but I think newer Delegates and even some experienced Delegates might be surprised with the answers. Most operating expenses go to staff costs, professional fees, and fulfillment costs for items we sell with registration or via our website. Also, we donate 5% of revenue to charitable organizations that support activities related to AKC's mission.

What financial trends are in the future for AKC?

Future years look very positive due to the Board and Staff developing plans to invest in the future of AKC. All staff, supported by the Board, are focused on cost control to be responsible stewards of AKC's assets.

What is the most challenging part of your job?

The most challenging and rewarding part of my job is finding the best fit for communicating complex financial information to my colleagues, the Board, and Delegates.

What do you most enjoy about your job?

Working with a great team of colleagues that welcomed me during a Pandemic and, as a team, created a work plan to strengthen financial accounting and reporting systems.

What is your proudest work-related accomplishment?

Seeing my team ask for new opportunities to expand their job responsibilities and carry them forward in many aspects of my overall responsibility. One example is implementing new processes and systems. We see our colleagues as 'clients' and attempt to give the best service possible to support them and their work for AKC.

The Delegates all represent member clubs of AKC. Is there anything Delegates and their member clubs can do to help themselves and AKC financially?

Support the mission of AKC and encourage responsible breeding to continue the great work already in place for the sport. In addition, please know that I enjoy meeting and connecting with people! The Delegates should feel free to share ideas and suggestions with the Board and contact me directly.

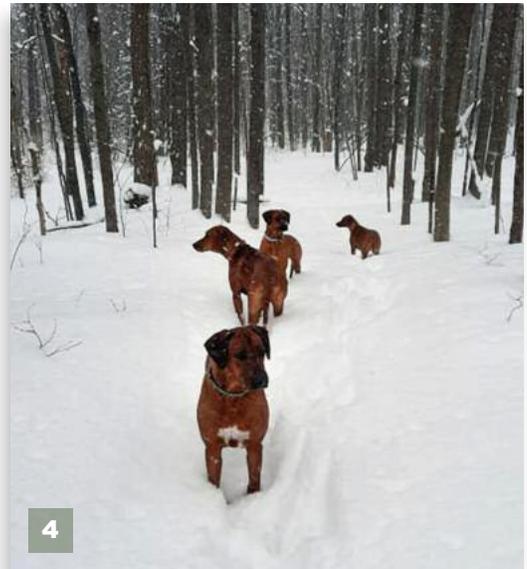
What is the largest challenge facing AKC?

Seeking new opportunities to engage and develop new audiences. Our CEO is always asking, 'where can we grow'? Also, saying, "Let's focus on how we can care for the mission and staff of AKC." These are powerful statements when we all bring our best to the job daily. Without this vision and support, any challenges we face would be impossible. Working together, I believe we will advance the mission of AKC by investing in programs that extend its outreach and raise all Clubs as we go.

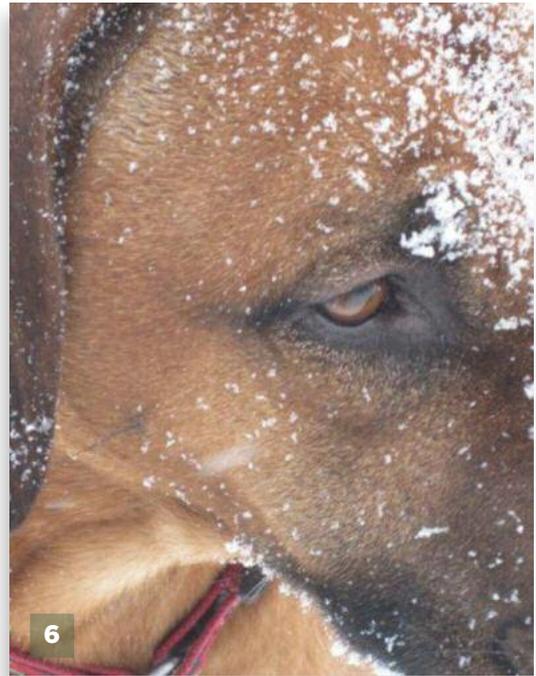
ENJOYING WINTER AND SHARING THE JOY OF THE SEASON

MONICA HENDERSON STONER, Delegate, Saluki Club Of America, Perspectives Assistant Editor

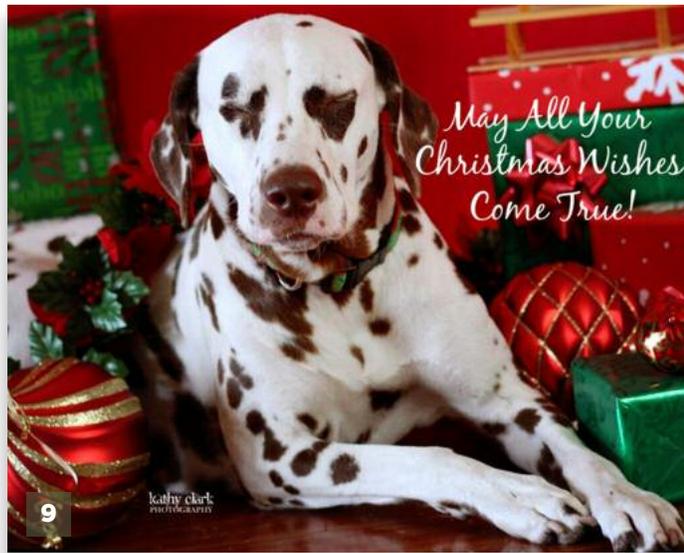
DECEMBER PHOTO GALLERY



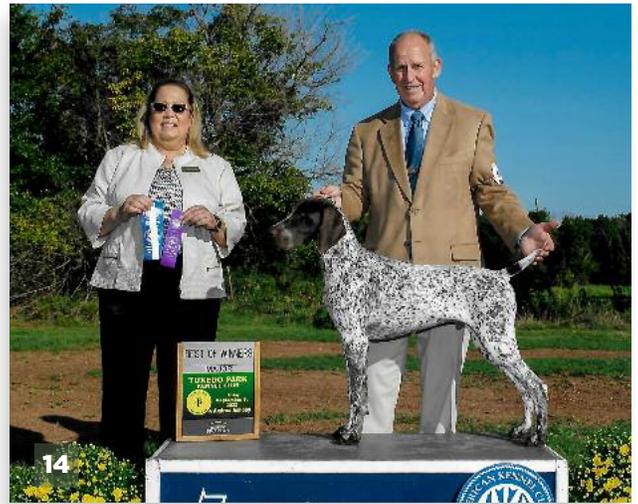
DECEMBER PHOTO GALLERY



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DECEMBER PHOTO GALLERY



DECEMBER PHOTO GALLERY



DECEMBER PHOTO GALLERY



Our December Photo Gallery Index

- 1 – 3** **Gloria Askins**, *Delegate, Greenville Kennel Club*
Irish Setter – Gunner hunting, Claire’s first meeting with real snow and Christmas in South Carolina.
-
- 4 – 6** **Cris Cone**, *Delegate Kanadasaga Kennel Club*
Rhodesian Ridgebacks – Enjoying winter.
-
- 7** **Isobel Ososki**, *Delegate, St. Louis Collie Club, Inc.*
Collie – Puppy taking a stroll across the snow. Photo by Nancy Anstruther.
-
- 8** **Sherri Swabb Sarron**, *Delegate, Dayton Dog Training Club, Inc.*
Belgian Sheepdog – Meet the Success Litter.
-
- 9** **Mary-Lynn Jensen, Ph.D.**, *Delegate, Orlando Dog Training Club*
Dalmatian – Amber sends Christmas greetings.
-
- 10, 11** **Larry Wilson**, *Delegate, Philadelphia Dog Training Club, Inc.*
Poodles – Tommy and Brady dancing in the snow.
-
- 12 – 14** **Bob Rynkiewicz**, *Delegate, Eastern German Shorthaired Pointer Club, Inc.*
German Shorthaired Pointer – Meet Tucker taking two majors and completing Junior Hunter in one weekend at six months of age.
-
- 15 – 18** **Mary Lou Olszewski**, *Delegate, American Bloodhound Club*
Bloodhounds – Hank and AJ enjoying the snow.
-
- 19** **Pam Davis**, *Delegate, Cairn Terrier Club of America*
Cairn Terrier- Daisy, California Dreaming.
-
- 20** **Sharyn Hutchens**, *Delegate, Shenandoah Valley Kennel Club, Inc.*
Whippet - Appraxis Avant-garde, “Blue.”
-
- 21, 22** **Rick Su**, *Delegate, Keeshond Club of America, Inc.*
Keeshond – How we spend “Black Friday” the unofficial start of winter and How we spend winter.
-
- 24, 25** **Diane Skibinski**, *Delegate, Lake Shore Kennel Club, Inc.*
Dalmatian – GCH Folklore Horizon and Liberty’s Spring Fair “Pebbly” ripping through the deep snow; GCHG Folklore Celtic Crossfire Trail “Rafe” standing his ground in snow.
-
- 26 – 29** **Chris Sweetwood**, *Delegate, Trap Falls Kennel Club, Inc.*
Spinoni Italiani, Veloce covered in snow and performing the work he was bred for.
-
- 30 – 32** **Monica Henderson Stoner**, *Delegate, Saluki Club of America*
Saluki and Afghan – Elektra the Afghan, at rest and on the go and Israfel and Ari on a winter day.
-
- 33** **Tami Worley**, *Delegate, Clackamas Kennel Club*
Belgian Sheepdog – Frolicking in the snow.
-
- 34, 35** **Elizabeth Trail**, *Delegate, Green Mountain Dog Club, Inc.*
Irish Water Spaniel – Taking a refreshing dip in the pond swimming through the snow.

YOU MUST HAVE BEEN A BEAUTIFUL BABY...

SYLVIA THOMAS, Delegate, Kennel Club of Riverside, Perspectives Editor

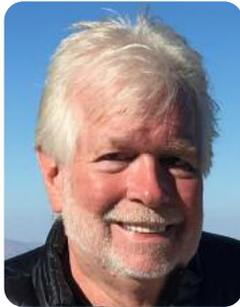
The mystery of our beautiful babies among the Delegate Body continues...

The mystery of our beautiful babies among the Delegate Body continues. We are looking for winners. Introducing our December babies. Consider the clues, study the photos, and send your guesses to **Monica Stoner**, tsent@ix.netcom.com. **Winner(s) will receive a gift card.**

Drum roll please...opening the envelope...and now the results!

September Baby Boy and Girl...did you take a guess? Were you right?

This handsome young man is our very own **Don Hanson**, Delegate for American Lhasa Apso Club, Inc. Don lives in Scottsdale, AZ and recently served as a member of the Nominating Committee. Our lovely little girl is well known Saluki exhibitor/breeder, **Monica Henderson Stoner** who is the tireless and dedicated Assistant Editor of Perspectives. Monica is the Delegate for the Saluki Club of America. *Thank you both for participating!*



Thank you both!



Put your mystery-solving hat on...can you crack the case and identify the December charming baby boy and adorable baby girl?

Here are your clues for our handsome December Baby Boy...

- Hails from North Carolina
- Trained as an orchestral musician (trombone)
- Puts on the Leonberger Triple Crown each October
- Works in Technology Education



And meet our oh-so-cute December Baby Girl...

- Lives in the Northeast
- Very involved with Dog Show Rules
- Loves Sporting Dogs, especially German Shorthaired Pointers



HOW TO GROW YOUR CLUB

SHARYN HUTCHENS, Delegate, Shenandoah Valley Kennel Club, Inc., Perspectives Editorial Board

GROW YOUR CLUB

Everybody worries about dwindling (and aging!) club membership, but AKC Club Development has a way to do something about it... and it works!

With the help of Club Development, clubs can reach out to their communities with a Meet & Greet targeted to AKC registered dog owners. Clubs have hosted wine and cheese parties, barbecues, picnics, and pizza parties to recruit members. According to Guy Fisher, manager of Club Development, these events are extremely effective, with increases in membership reported across the board.

So how do you do it and how can Club Development help?

Decide when and where you want to hold your event. Most clubs use a park or community center. Sixty days beforehand, contact Club Development with your plans. They will mine AKC's database for the email addresses of everyone in your area who owns an AKC registered dog five years old or younger. All you provide is a club logo, event details, and a contact person, and invitations will go out to this mailing list. Your contact person should be a club member who is enthusiastic and happy to work and interact with the public.

Many clubs set up some basic Agility equipment, a short Rally course, a small ring for Conformation and Obedience, or other equipment for demonstrations of what dog sports are all about. Be sure to have plenty of friendly club members on hand to answer questions. Bring lots of membership applications! AKC also provides downloadable brochures covering everything from tips for attending a dog show to getting started in dog events.

Now that you have interested community members, Club Development suggests following up the Meet & Greet a few weeks later by inviting them to a "pupalooza" day featuring activities like a fun match, CGC testing, trick dog, and other engaging activities. Again, bring membership applications and friendly faces!

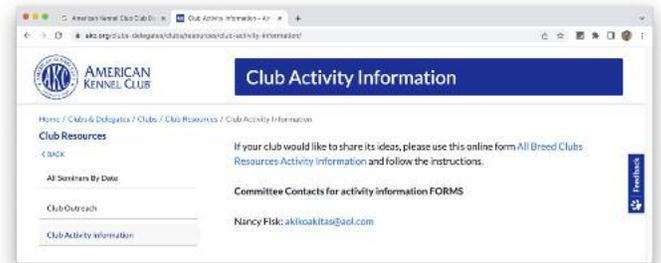
Find out about other clubs' experiences with membership recruitment by joining Club Development's very active Facebook group. They also maintain a community page and an Event Services blog for rule and regulation updates and other important announcements. Growing your club may be easier and more fun than you might have guessed!

Click the images below for more information!

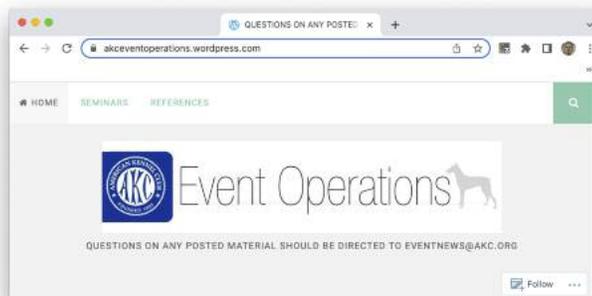
Club Development Department page



Club Activity Information page



Club Event Operations Blog



WHERE IT ALL STARTED

KATHY GREGORY, *Delegate, Port Chester Obedience Training Club, Inc.*

DELEGATES

My maiden name is O'Connor which translates, I am told, to “Lover of Hounds,” so I figure my love of all things canine was fated from birth.

My paternal Grandfather bred Boston Bull Terriers. I have pictures of him from the mid 1900's sitting in a chair amid lots of black and white puppies licking his blissfully smiling face. He had long since passed away by the time I was born, so what might have been his knowledge of dogs was lost to me. On my mother's side, her family was a “cleaning and organization” clan. No one on that side of the family had a dog, cat, bird or even a fish. The closest her family came to domestic animals was to feed the feral cats that lived on scraps thrown down from the various kitchens to the center courtyard of their apartment building in Brooklyn.

I think I started asking for a dog as soon as I could talk. My dad was always on my side. My mother, not so much. I watched the TV show “Lassie” religiously, and always dissolved into sobs when Lassie got into her weekly crisis of being injured or getting lost or being separated from her beloved master, Timmy. It got so bad my mom told



me she was going to forbid me from watching the show if it upset me so much! My dad understood completely.

For my first Christmas, I received my first dog, a wooden pull toy named Snoopy that I now believe was supposed to be a Basset Hound. He was long and low and had a screwy metal tail with a wooden ball on the end that wagged when he rolled along on wheels.

One weekend when I was 6 years old, the coordinated assault efforts of my dad and I finally broke through my mother's resistance, and we drove to the local pet store to purchase my first real live dog. My mom had rules though; the dog had to be small and could not shed. She decided a small Poodle would be perfect. I was ecstatic. We agreed! Now, mind you, this was 1958. We were naïve and there was no Internet research and the AKC was very distant to my experience. We entered the store, and I was immediately drawn to the only white puppy in the wriggling pile, and we were told that this bundle of fluff was what my mom heard as a Poodle. Perfect! We took him home and named him Apache. He was my closest pal from that moment on and we did everything together. My



GREGORY, cont'd

mom's decree was that 'Patche was to live in the dining room/kitchen combination area, about 1/3 of the entire first floor of our house. This was to keep corralled the white fluffy hair that sprung from his body on a daily basis, but in a blizzard of hair at least twice a year, necessitating daily cleanups. His hair became tangled and twisted if I didn't stay on top of regular grooming and every summer, we gave him a haircut so he would be more comfortable in



the hot weather. What did we know?? And 'Patche started to grow and grow until it became very clear that he would not be a small Poodle. As a matter of fact, it did not seem that he was a Poodle at all!

It certainly did not matter to me! I saw some basic Obedience lessons somewhere on TV and before you knew it, 'Patche and I were heeling up and down the kitchen floor, turning at the refrigerator and he was going around my back to complete a perfect sit. We had 12 great years together before 'Patche passed away of old age. I waited a few years until I got my first rescued Doberman and that has been my breed ever since.

It was not until several years later that I got my first AKC breed standard book and realized with a shock that 'Patche was a PULI, not a POODLE! Now, how a Puli ended up in a small pet shop in Yonkers, New York, in 1958 I will never know, but there you are. I have to laugh at the thought of the type of dog my mother reluctantly agreed to and what we actually got! In any event, I have made up for all my dog-less years by participating in breed conformation shows and many of the other dog sports the AKC has to offer with my Dobies.

Maybe you have a funny story about how you first got into dogs? If so, I would love to hear it!

The Way We Were...

Take us down memory lane. We talk about the good old days. Here's your chance to share the good, funny, or scary times you had. How did you get started in dogs? From whom did you get your first dog? Did you have a mentor or two or three who helped you navigate the perilous waters of showing and maybe even breeding your first dog? We'd like to make this a regular feature in Perspectives as we reflect on the "way we were" including those funny hair dos and snazzy outfits.

Can we identify the judges in the photos? Just send your story and photos to

Sylvia.Thomas@rccd.edu and we'll do the rest.

THOSE WHO BELIEVE IN SOMETHING ACT

DR. CARMEN L. BATTAGLIA, Delegate, German Shepherd Club of America, Member of Board of Directors

TRAINING

History shows that when people believe in a cause they are likely to act and on December 7, 1941, Japan attacked Pearl Harbor and drew the United States into World War II. At that time most were surprised to learn that the US was the only major power whose military was not using dogs.

That concern stirred the patriotic interests of a determined lady named Arlene Erlanger. She believed that the US military should be using dogs but her efforts to convince Congress to make a change failed. This only made her more determined as she believed in the use of dogs and was not willing to give up. When the war began to heat up, she began a second campaign for the use of American bred dogs. The rationale given her by the government this time was that American dogs could not be trained effectively to go to war and public support would be nonexistent. [1] This setback did not deter her and her determination grew.

Even though other countries were using dogs in the war effort, the Department of Defense showed no interest. Undeterred, Arlene Erlanger tried a different strategy and this time it paid off.

She began to involve other prominent figures in the dog world. Collectively they helped her establish “Dogs for Defense.” Her program was launched in January 1942. It was an immediate success, and it did not take long before the Department of Defense responded. On March 13, 1942, the Army named “Dogs for Defense” the authorizing agency for canine recruitment and training. To the government’s surprise, her program was met with over whelming public support [3]. Citizens across the country believed they could help. They were sending their sons and husbands to fight, and her program gave them a way to send their dogs. Erlanger’s dog program was all about American-bred dogs and how they could help in the war effort. Citizens came forward with their completed questionnaires and donated their dogs to serve [4]. The questionnaire used noted that owners were not to receive their animals back unless they were deemed unfit for service, however a provision in a later questionnaire included the owners right to get their animals back

AKC owners and breeders are known to do something when they believe there is a need.

following the end of the war effort.

Estimates regarding the number of dogs enlisted during World War II are unknown, however, some say it exceeded 25,000. Others believe it was anywhere from 50,000 to 300,000 [5]. There were no breed or sex requirements. Every state set up a center with a recruitment officer to help facilitate donations for “Dogs for Defense.”

The patriotic spirit and love of country began to drive owners and breeders to donate the dogs they loved. Military historian Fairfax Downey wrote that, “Givers of dogs received a certificate expressing the gratitude of the United States Government. Recognition that they had performed an act of patriotism meant a sacrifice of something cherished.” [6] The act of participation and the donation of a beloved dog allowed each donor to feel a sense of loyalty and love of country.

Training and reception centers were quickly established throughout the United States. The Quartermaster Corps operated six War Dog Training and Reception Centers. They were located at: Front Royal, Virginia; Fort Robinson, Nebraska; San Carlos, California; Cat Island, Mississippi; Camp Lejeune, North Carolina; and Camp Rimini, in Helena, Montana. A Technical Manual for War Dogs, published in July of 1943 outlined a canine and handler training program that lasted for eight weeks. When ready for duty, the dogs and handlers were shipped to their destinations and assigned to a variety of military units.

To further support the war effort, AKC dog clubs were asked to help, and they responded by highlighting the “Dogs for Defense” program at their dog shows. All-Breed and Specialty clubs began to encourage owners and breeders to donate a dog. The Santa Cruz Sentinel in March of 1942 highlighted how AKC clubs had urged donors to buy “Dogs for Defense” war bonds. The article explained the importance and assistance provided by dog owners and their donations. Other editors quickly realized that advertising dog donations was important. Attitudes changed as the media got involved. They realized they could make the difference be-

tween success and failure. Soon every newspaper and AKC dog show was involved [11]. Editors believed that if they showed their readers how dogs were being trained and to what purpose they were serving, donations would increase. They were right. As more citizens began to learn about the dogs and their uses, dog donations and the purchase war bonds to support “Dogs for Defense” increased.

In a short period of time, daily and weekly newspapers began to run feature stories about the program. In 1943, the Indianapolis Star published an article about a dog named “Towser” from New Castle, Indiana. The article explained how “Towser’s” owner was joining the fight to “avenge the capture by the Japanese of his master, Chief Petty Officer Lawrence Corum of New Castle.” [12] Unlike other dogs who were donated, “Towser’s” owner wanted to join “Dogs for Defense” for revenge. The article featured a caption underneath “Towser’s” photo that stated: “Fathers have joined the armed forces to avenge their sons, and sons to avenge their fathers, but New Castle has a dog which is entering the K-9 forces to avenge his master, now a prisoner of the Japanese.” [13]. The story explained that “Towser’s” master had been captured following the fall of Corregidor in 1942 and that “Towser” was ready for military life.” As it turned out Towser was a female who was familiar with military life. She had flown in airplanes and ridden in army trucks” 14]. In the film Sergeant Mike, the story line featured a young boy who donated his dog Mike to seek revenge for his father who was killed in the Pacific Theater. The boy was so motivated to avenge his father’s death that he donated the dog he loved. The “Towser” donation was different. It was to “enlist” a dog to bring his master back home to his family.

Mabel Harmer in her book, Famous Mascots and K-9s, tells a story about a dog named “Chips.” According to the story, soldiers threw themselves upon the sand in order to escape the hail of bullets but not Chips. He attacked an Italian pillbox with total disregard of anything the enemy had. Chips charged the hut and came out with one Italian by the throat and three others holding their hands high above their heads in token of surrender. Chips suffered slight powder burns in the melee but went stealthily on to the next encounter which occurred

just a short time later when his keen sense of smell told him that more of the enemy were creeping toward their beach head. He alerted the troops of the danger, and more soldiers were saved. [15]

On August 14, 1945, following the surrender of Japan, dogs and handlers were sent back to Fort Robinson, Nebraska, where they were demobilized. Most were returned to their original owners or adopted by their handlers. Others were reassigned to different jobs barring illness or aggressive behavior.

Thousands of AKC owners and breeders were driven to do something because of their belief they could make a difference with their donations and their patriotism. Those donations made during World War II saved the lives of thousands of American soldiers. They continued during the Korean and Vietnam wars, but they never amassed the numbers produced during World War II.

AKC owners and breeders are known to do something when they believe there is a need. Now, almost 64 years later, another need has surfaced. It occurred following the US Senate Hearings of 2016 which focused on the security of the infrastructure in the US using working dogs. The Senate learned that for more than 30 years about 80% of the dogs used by America came from European breeders and many of them failed when brought to the US for training and evaluation. After the 2016 hearings, one of the witnesses contacted an AKC Board member and asked if AKC would help. Knowing the size and scale of AKC with more than 175,000 breeders, the request for help was acted on by the AKC Board who established the AKC Dog Detection Task Force (ADDTF). This new effort was aimed at owners, breeders, and their dog clubs. The need was to establish a domestic breeding program for detection dogs. The Task Force quickly established the Patriotic Puppy Program (PPP) which involved breeders who were willing to breed litter and dedicate one or two pups for the programs.

Many breeders and owners have joined the PPP. By 2022, breeders were holding back pups for basic obedience training and development. As green dogs, they were being placed with Federal, State, police, and service organizations. More than 70 breeders from 30 states are now involved and more

are still needed. The Task Force provides technical support using experts who specialize in breeding, training, and puppy development. They also use on-going webinars and regular breeder meetings to help with breeder questions and ways to share and better develop the training of puppies. The AKC Reunite organization is also helping through their Adopt-A-Cop grant program which has already made more than 250 grants of \$10,000 each. These grants to police departments are used to purchase dogs for the K9 department. [17].

To further raise awareness levels, the Task Force annually hosts a conference for the stake holders: Federal and State agencies, police organizations, breeders, breed clubs, researchers, vendors and the national press. A conference of stake holders was held on August 23 -25, 2022 in Durham, NC. This year's theme focused on improvements and better ways to breed and train dogs needed to protect the country and improve public security. The speakers, experts in their field, focused on the practical solutions needed by breeders, puppy-raisers, trainers, and buyers. Topics included actionable resources, opportunities, and ways to work together for a successful future.

The good news is that history is repeating itself and AKC breeders and trainers are demonstrating their patriotism by getting involved in something they believe in. The goals of developing a domestic breeding program are moving forward. The patriotic spirit seen in World War II has again moved AKC owners and breeders to take action.

If this article motivates you and you believe you can help by donating a pup from a litter for this worthy program, please investigate the opportunity to do something for the security of the country. Information about how to become a breeder or puppy raiser is available by contacting: Melissa Ferrell, Program Manager, Melissa.Ferrell@akc.org (919) 816-3577.

REFERENCES:

- [1] Fairfax Downey, *Dogs for Defense: American Dogs in the Second World War 1941-1945* (New York: Trustees of Dogs for Defense, 1955), 3.
- [2] *Ibid*, 16.
- [3] *Ibid*, 18-21.

- [4] *Ibid*, 24. The owner questionnaire asked owners to list their dogs breed, sex, shoulder height, call name, sex, and AKC registration number and name if applicable. It also asked for information regarding health, temperament and whether the dog was fearful of loud noises such as guns or storms. The questionnaire indicated that owners would not receive their animals back unless they were deemed unfit for service, however a provision was made in a later questionnaire to return dogs to their owners following the end of the war effort.
- [5] Fairfax Downey, 22. Downey's number of 25,000 was accepted to be correct but higher reference figures also exist. A figure of 300,00 dogs is given by James W. English in *The Rin Tin Tin Story* (New York: Dodd, Mead, & Company, 1949), Pg. 171.
- [6] Fairfax Downey, *Dogs for Defense*, 24.
- [7] Harry I. Caesar, forward in Ruth Adams Knight's *Valiant Comrades: A Story of Our Dogs in War* (Garden City: The Country Life Press, 1943), viii.
- [8] War Writers Bureau Collection, Box 142, Folder "All Out for Davey"
- [9] *Ibid*, "All Out for Davey"
- [10] *Ibid*, "All Out for Davey"
- [11] Santa Cruz Sentinel, "Santa Cruz Dog Show Goes Patriotic," March 31, 1942, 4.
- [12] The Indianapolis Star, "Towser Joins Dogs for Defense to Avenge Master's Capture by Japs" (May 16, 1943), 37.
- [13] *Ibid*, 37.
- [14] *Ibid*, 37. It is unknown why the article switches between male and female genders to refer to Towser, but Towser was reported to be a female.
- [15] For younger readers who are interested in Chips's story see: Nancy M. West, *Chips a Hometown Hero: Based on the True-Life Adventures of the World War II K9 Hero* (New York: Off Lead Publications, 2008) and *Chips the War Dog* (Walt Disney Company, VHS). There is a children's novel written by Jacky Donovan about a Yorkshire Terrier named Smoky, but the dog never received the same media coverage as Chips did.
- [16] Fairfax Downey, *Dogs for Defense*, 73.
- [17] Battaglia, Carmen. 2022. *The Difference Makers Are Here - Adopt-A-Cop, A Bold Step*. *Canine Chronicle*, Ocala, Fl. Pg. 250 - 252.

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JUNIORS JUDGING COMPETITION

BLAINE GROVE, Delegate, New England Beagle Club, Inc., Perspectives Editorial Board

JUNIORS

The Delegates Junior Subcommittee was recently asked to work on a new project for a Junior's competition. The idea was presented to the Board in 2019 by board member Dominic Carota. Mari-Beth O'Neill provided a history and a proposed outline for a special attraction that a club may conduct.

As we all know, in 2020, the world was shut down by COVID-19, and the idea was put on the back burner. Now that the world is returning to normalcy, it's time to work on the concept. Who better to tackle it than a group of individuals who have dedicated themselves to bringing youths into our sports?

The program is a Junior's dog judging competition. The committee has been working on programs to bring juniors in and to keep them in our sports to be our next generation of competitors; now it's time to develop our next generation of judges. The program would be a new AKC event, but it is not entirely new to the dog world. The International Kennel Club, Louisville Kennel Club, and several others have held such events over the years, and these types of events have been held for many years in other youth programs.

The 4H and FFA have been holding judging contests for dairy cattle, horses, swine, sheep, goats, chickens, horticulture, and anything else



An AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB Program

related to farm life for a long time. I have pictures of my father receiving awards for livestock judging through the FFA as a high school student in the 1950s. I competed in 4H and FFA competitions starting at the age of 10 in 4H, completing my career in FFA when I graduated high school. I never gave it much thought, but I now realize the methods I learned and used to evaluate and break

down a class of livestock I now apply to the Beagle field trials that I judge today.

When I reminisce about my experiences as a youth, I ponder how we could apply those experiences to a Juniors' Dog Judging competition today, in the field and on the bench. I see some similarities, but some challenges come to mind.

Education and practice are two immediate concerns. Education is the lesser of the two. With all the information available on the Internet, studying the breeds' standards and learning the competitions' rules will be straightforward, but finding ways to apply that knowledge to real situations is challenging. 4H has local and county clubs, while the FFA has chapters that are linked to school districts.

This is like our local dog clubs. The leaders/advisors of the 4H and FFA would hold educational classes where students would learn standards and desirable traits, and then they



would plan visits to local farms and set up classes of animals for our use to practice judging. These were not ideal situations. Most of the time, the animals were not groomed for the show ring and were not always good show quality animals, but we were able to practice evaluating animals and applying the standards to them.

In the AKC dog show and field trial world, we recently created the position of Junior Coordinator for clubs. We are just starting to develop Junior clubs, so the organization of training sessions on the local level will be a challenge, especially when you consider there are thousands of member and licensed clubs. As of our last Juniors committee meeting, there were only 95 clubs that had an appointed Junior coordinator.

At first, I thought structuring the “Judging competition would be a struggle. In the 4H & FFA livestock contest, we rarely had competitions judging purebred breeding stock. Classes were created from market animals. They were not breed-specific. The standard for an animal that produces a nice T-bone, pork chop, or leg of lamb is the same no matter what breed. These classes were no different than a real livestock show, but the real show also had classes for purebred breeding stock. So, the judging competition is different from an actual livestock show. Once you realize that the judging competition doesn't need to fully simulate the actual competition, the structure of the judging competition

Wouldn't it be great if a Juniors came out of this program knowing the standard and being able to judge every recognized breed?

becomes easier to set up.

When I look at the Beagle field trial world that I am most familiar with, hounds are entered on the day of the event. They are drawn out into packs for the first series. The judges evaluate each pack and eliminate faulty hounds. In an entry of 50 Hounds, the judges might bring back the second series of 21 total. The hounds are drawn into packs and again evaluated by the judges, and faulty hounds are eliminated. From

the 21, a “Winner's Pack” is created. The judges will evaluate the pack, eliminate the faulty or less desirable hounds, and determine placings for the final five hounds. To use this same

format for the judging competition would be difficult, if not impossible. Instead, I believe we would set up, say, maybe five packs of hounds. The juniors would evaluate them and place each hound in the pack. Their placings would then be compared to the placings of the official judges.

The same would need to be done for Dog Show judging. Instead of having classes like our official shows where dogs advance, several classes would be set up, evaluated, and placed. Classes could be as easy as a class of the popular breed of Labradors to a class of a mixture of low-entry breeds. Wouldn't it be great if a junior came out of this program knowing the standard and being able to judge every recognized breed? Maybe even having a very advanced competition where the juniors needed to evaluate a class on the bench and in the field! Talk about teaching form and



GROVE, cont'd

function!

Another aspect of the 4H/FFA judging competitions that would be very important to include is the reasoning portion. This is an opportunity for the Junior judge to go in front of a group of judges and give his/her "reasoning" for the placement of the animals. These folks are not usually the same folks that determine the official placement of the animals. The judges provided a score based solely on the presentation. Having to do this really made you think of the details of why you placed one animal over the other while you were judging the class. If you have watched an animal judging competition at your local fair, at the end of the class, the judge will pick up the microphone and go over why he placed the animals the way he did. The reasoning score usually was not included in the younger age classes.

Again, thinking about how I do things today as a field trial judge, quite often, a competitor will come to the judge and ask why their hound was eliminated from the competition. Most



judges will give a brief general reason while trying to be polite, hoping that the competitor accepts it and moves on. I find myself giving the pros and cons of the hound's performance and hopefully demonstrating to the competitor that I gave their hound's performance a complete evaluation. A trait that I now realize I learned as a youth many years ago.

Creating this program will be a major task, but I believe the efforts it will take are well worth the investment. Even if a Junior goes through this competition and doesn't go on to become a

judge, the experience and the taste of what it takes to be a judge will always reside in the back of their mind, and the knowledge gained of breed standards, rules, and regulations are priceless.

Stay tuned: more will come on the topic as the committee dives into creating the program. If you have ideas that you feel would be helpful in creating the competition, please reach out to one of the delegates serving on the Juniors Committee.



Have you read an interesting article in a magazine or newspaper that you think might be a great "article" for Perspectives? This is where to begin. Call the article or topic to our attention. While we are unable to publish an article that has appeared elsewhere, be it a club, newsletter, or a magazine, we can work with you to "rework, rewrite, reframe" the article for publication in *Perspectives*. Simple! We want to share topics that you are interested in and are here to help make that possible!

IN HONOR AND MEMORY OF THOSE WE HAVE LOST

Merlyn Green

Dr. Green was Delegate for Del Monte KC.

Ron Menaker

Chairman Emeritus. Over a thirty-four-year period, Mr. Menaker was Delegate for the Bedlington Terrier Club of America, Des Moines Obedience Training Club, Rockford-Freeport Illinois KC, and Memphis Kennel Club.

Pat Laurens

Delegate, German Wirehaired Pointer Club of America, Inc. for over 30 years.

Kathie Moulton

Delegate, Green Mountain Club, Inc. since 2014.

John Nielsen

Delegate, English Setter Association of America, Inc.

Patty Peel

Delegate, Alaskan Malamute Club of America, Inc. since 2012.

Robert Schroll

Delegate, Clarksville Kennel Club since 2000.

Carol P. Smith

Delegate, Italian Greyhound Club of America since 2018.

We thank our dear friends for their dedication to the Sport, their commitment to dogs, their service to the AKC and the Delegate Body and their friendship. You are all greatly missed.



BOARD & DELEGATE MEETINGS 2022

As of November 8, 2022

All meetings, except December, are in the NYC/NJ area. The December meeting is in Orlando, FL.

JANUARY 2022						
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- January**
 10 Board Meeting
 11 Board Meeting

- July**
 11 Board Meeting
 12 Board Meeting

JULY 2022						
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- February**
 7 Board Meeting
 8 Board Meeting

- August**
 8 Board Meeting
 9 Board Meeting

AUGUST 2022						
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- March**
 7 Delegate Committee Meeting
 8 Delegate Meeting

- September**
 12 Delegate Committee Meeting
 13 Delegate Meeting

DECEMBER 2022						
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- April**
 11 Board Meeting
 12 Board Meeting

- October**
 10 Board Meeting
 11 Board Meeting

OCTOBER 2022						
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MAY 2022						
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- May**
 9 Board Meeting
 10 Board Meeting

- November**
 7 Board Meeting
 8 Board Meeting

NOVEMBER 2022						
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- June**
 13 Delegate Committee Meeting
 14 Delegate Meeting

- December**
 15 Delegate Committee Meeting
 16 Delegate Meeting

DECEMBER 2022						
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January

- 9 Board Meeting
- 10 Board Meeting

July

- 10 Board Meeting
- 11 Board Meeting

JULY 2023						
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February

- 13 Board Meeting
- 14 Board Meeting

August

- 7 Board Meeting
- 8 Board Meeting

AUGUST 2023						
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March

- 13 Delegate Committee Meeting
- 14 Delegate Meeting

September

- 11 Delegate Committee Meeting
- 12 Delegate Meeting

SEPTEMBER 2023						
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April

- 10 Board Meeting
- 11 Board Meeting

October

- 9 Board Meeting
- 10 Board Meeting

OCTOBER 2023						
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May

- 5 Board Meeting

November

- 13 Board Meeting
- 14 Board Meeting

NOVEMBER 2023						
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June

- 12 Delegate Committee Meeting
- 13 Delegate Meeting

December

- 14 Delegate Committee Meeting
- 15 Delegate Meeting

DECEMBER 2023						
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