

TRAP FALLS KENNEL CLUB NEWSLETTER



March-April 2014

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MEETING NOTICE

The next meeting will be **May 13**, 2014 meeting will be at Apple Rehab/Shelton Lakes at 7:00 p.m. Board meeting at 6:15 p.m. **NOTE TIME AND DATE CHANGE!**
The June 4, 2014 meeting will be at Apple Rehab/Shelton Lakes at 7:30 p.m. Board meeting at 6:30 p.m.

CALENDAR 2014

May 13- meeting-guest speaker -Dr. Sheldon Yessenow, Animal Response Team for Region 1, CTSart program.
June 3- meeting
July-picnic, date to be determined
August 5- meeting
September 2- meeting
September- RDOD, date to be determined
October 7- meeting
November 4- meeting
December- Christmas Party-date to be announced

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Applicants Karen Battestelli, Barbara Flannery and Diane Yuravich have met their requirements and have been approved by the Board. They will be voted on by the general membership at the next meeting. If any member knows of any reason that these applicants should not be accepted, please contact a Board member.

Just a friendly reminder that your dues were due by March 1.

Please renew promptly or let Eve know if you are not renewing. Eve Skrabl 203-732-5939
sableskrabl@comcast.net

April Show

Thanks to everyone who helped out at our April show. It was one of our largest with a total entry of

1,468 in 145 different Breeds or Varieties, including 72 obedience entries and 45 rally entries and supported entries by the following clubs:
Southern New England Brittany Club
Connecticut River Valley Golden Retriever Club
Nutmeg Afghan Hound Club
Pilgrim Basset Hound Club
Irish Wolfhound Association of New England
Great Dane Club of New England
New England St. Bernard Club
Minuteman Samoyed Club
(Sweepstakes & Veteran Sweepstakes)
Connecticut Valley Siberian Husky Club
Heart of New England Chihuahua Club
Boston Terrier Club of Connecticut, Inc.
Dalmatian Club of Southern New England
(Sweepstakes & Veteran Sweepstakes)
Berkshire Belgian Tervuren Club



TFKC WINS AKC COMMUNITY ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

This award is for the 2013 Responsible Dog Ownership day held in September at Warsaw Park in Ansonia. This is the third (a 2008 win and an

Honorable Mention in 2011) time we have received this honor.

This was and is a big effort by everyone in the club to educate the community about our furry friends.

This year we will have our, the **K9 Karnival** event at Milford's Eisenhower Park on Saturday, September 27, 2014 from 9-4.

To make all this happen we need volunteers. Some jobs have already been filled, but many remain vacant.

Here is a list of some of the jobs that still NEED to be filled:

Obedience/Rally Match: VACANT

MC: VACANT

Raffles: VACANT

Contests: VACANT

We need your help and idea to make this event successful. No job is too small. Even if you cannot attend you may be able to help with one of the many areas that lead up to the event.

Please contact me with your thoughts or ideas either via e-mail or call me at 203-877-6157. Chris Sweetwood, RDOD Chair

AKC Good Sportsmanship Annual Medallion

This award honors those individuals who deserve special recognition that have made a difference in the sport of purebred dogs, embodied the AKC Code of Sportsmanship, and have been an active and valued member of an AKC member club. Medallions are awarded solely at the club's discretion. For 2013, Jane Edmunds nominated Chris Sweetwood for Trap Falls and we are pleased and honored to award this to him for his community support in aligning AKC and Trap Falls with Newtown police. His diligence and unrelenting devotion to the cause resulted in a new police dog for Newtown and the AKC Reunite logo on the Newtown Police cars.

AKC Delegate News

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

-- Progress to a Better Future --

New York, NY - Coming originally from the Bronx and being an ardent baseball fan, I always admired New York Yankees Hall of Fame catcher Yogi Berra. He is

not only famous for being a gifted player, but also for his gifted ability for a memorable turn of phrase - like "when you come to a fork in the road, take it" and "always go to other people's funerals, otherwise they won't come to yours."

While Yogi employed malapropisms to make his point memorable, his intent was always abundantly clear. One Yogism stands out as being especially appropriate to the American Kennel Club at this time - "the future isn't what it used to be."

I believe our future is very different today than it was just a short time ago. On every front there are clear opportunities out there that can make the AKC stronger. Through our commitment to relentless positive action we are seizing those opportunities and creating significant positive progress.

All progress has a starting point and today I will share some of those starting points with the understanding that progress is experimental; progress is impossible without change; and, most importantly, progress is made through implementing ideas and learning from them.

We are making significant progress in the never-ending journey to get the true story of the AKC, purebred dogs, and responsible breeders out to the American public. In partnership with Edelman, we are making progress in changing the conversation and reaching the right people - including young families and empty nesters. The positive story we have is more engaging than it was just a year ago. Media outlets of all types and all geography are more interested in positive stories about who we are and what we do for dogs than ever before. Last year, we earned 22.5 billion media impressions with a value of almost \$100 million - a 10% increase over 2012.

In addition to our traditional stories, we are now getting stories telling the truth about purebred dogs and responsible breeders. We are communicating focused messages of the value of purebred predictability and the importance of breeder expertise. We have developed and included allied voices within our PR opportunities, including breeders and veterinarians, all adding to the credibility of the AKC. A special thanks goes to Patti Strand for her commitment and assistance in helping us with a story clarifying the misconceptions about purebred dogs and breeders.

What impact is this progress in media outreach having on our public perception? Here's one simple measurement: The slings and arrows sent our way on social media have dropped by over 40%. Plus we are growing our social media supporters every day via every venue available.

Our success in connecting with the public has not gone unnoticed. Advertisers are more interested than ever in utilizing AKC.org and the Wall Street Journal has taken notice of our positive progress.

Certainly, our AKC/Eukanuba National Championship is an important element in reaching the public. Last year, the show was live-streamed to over 3 million people. While we had more people watching more of the show than ever before, I believe there is opportunity for even more engagement with the public by getting the show back on TV. With the Board's enthusiastic agreement and Eukanuba's approval, I have assembled a team of Staff, Edelman, and a group within Edelman specializing in opportunities like this to immediately pursue every possible option that would bring this unique celebration of dogs to television for the enjoyment of the 99 million people who love dogs as much as we do. I will keep you informed as we progress on this quest.

We continue to make progress in events. There are numerous ideas being vetted across all sports and many have been implemented already:

- * The CGC title was launched last year and already we have applications for 17,000 dogs. The new Advanced CGC is gaining traction with over 1000 dogs titled.

- * Two clubs have applied for the pilot program allowing two conformation shows in one day. One club is a perfect example of how we thought this option would work to benefit clubs and exhibitors. The club is currently allowed four shows per year, averaging less than 300 dogs per show in a remote geography. Their plan is to have four shows in three days and we believe it will be very successful.

- * We have analyzed the impact of the National Owner-Handled Series (NOHS). The data demonstrates that the NOHS is a desirable and motivating offering for exhibitors. On average, those clubs that offered NOHS at their all-breed conformation shows saw a significant increase in entries versus similar shows that didn't. No other special attraction, including Best Puppy and Best Bred-by-Exhibitor, had an impact on entries. Research with NOHS participants around the country revealed that the availability of the NOHS competition at an event directly impacts their decision to enter. In the inaugural NOHS Finals held in conjunction with AENC last year, more than 520 competitors entered, representing 160 breeds and varieties from 43 states and Canada.

- * In our quest to bring new exhibitors into Conformation, we created the 4-6 Beginner Puppy Competition. Research yields that about 50% of the

exhibitors are new to the sport and 68% of those that participate go on to enter the regular puppy class when their dog is eligible.

- * The AKC Agility staff is in the process of developing a new pre-novice class in order to help attract new exhibitors and keep this event growing.

- * The AKC Performance Events Staff is considering a way to acknowledge a dog's lifetime of achievement and promote continuing involvement in the sport for the many dogs that run out of new titles before they run out of ability and desire.

- * Innovation drives growth in events. Agility is the perfect example of this thinking. Staff is working on new events that are fun for dog and exhibitor, instinct based, and open to all dogs.

We are making progress in dog and litter registrations, also. While we are still declining, the rate of decline has dropped significantly. We believe there are three key reasons for this. The first is that we are doing a much better job of telling our story, particularly about our Good Works program and its connection to registration for sustainability. In addition, two initiatives have had positive impact.

- * Late last year, AKC introduced Breeder EZReg, an online tool that gives breeders an easy way to ensure all of their puppies are registered. Breeders that use it enjoy significant discounts on fees, complete naming control, plus other advantages. More and more breeders are using this new tool to register all of their puppies.

- * We are currently working on a new breeder support program that rewards breeders who perform the health testing recommended by their breed's Parent Club. This program, along with AKC Breeder of Merit, allows us to help the public find a responsible breeder. And allows the AKC to not just defend breeding, but to improve it.

Helping breeders find good homes for their puppies and prospective owners find good breeders as a source for their puppies is an important part of growing registration and sport participation. To help accomplish those goals, the AKC Breeder Classifieds is getting a major overhaul that will deliver a much more consumer-friendly experience and therefore, a better showcase for AKC breeders. Look for the introduction of this great new tool very soon.

Our progress to a better future for the AKC is real. We recognize progress does not move in a straight line all the time. There will be highs and lows, beginnings and pauses, successes and failures. Through it all, we will remain optimistic, confident, and innovative - knowing that we can succeed when

we have the courage, initiative, and vision to try.

And that's where you can help. Ideas will drive our progress and I just know there are some good ones out there. We have established two easy ways for you to share your brainstorm as they happen. There is a new email address - AKCideas@akc.org - and a new voicemail line - (212) 696-8226. Both are open and we welcome your thoughts around anything that can help the AKC.

I believe we are catching a contagion of success. As Yogi said, "It ain't over until it's over."

Sincerely,

Alan Kalter
Chairman

AKC BOARD OF DIRECTORS CLASS OF 2018 ELECTED

-- James Dok, Dr. Charles Garvin and Ronald Menaker Elected --

New York, NY - At the Annual Meeting of the American Kennel Club on March 11, 2014, the AKC Board of Directors Class of 2018 was elected. The three Directors elected were: James Dok, Delegate from the Gig Harbor Kennel Club; Dr. Charles Garvin, Delegate from the Dalmatian Club of America; and Ronald Menaker, Delegate from the Rockford-Freeport Illinois Kennel Club. In addition, Alan Kalter (American Bullmastiff Association, Inc.) was re-elected as Chairman of the Board and Dr. Charles Garvin (Dalmatian Club of America) was elected as the Vice Chairman of the Board at a meeting of the AKC Board of Directors, convened after the Delegates Meeting.

AKC Chairman and Vice Chairman

Alan Kalter, of Ann Arbor, MI, brings a unique combination of experience in the world of purebred dogs, business, and marketing to the AKC Board. As an active breeder/exhibitor of Bullmastiffs for nearly 30 years, he has produced 165 champions including BIS, BISS, and five generations of Group winners under the HappyLegs registered prefix.

He is the past President of the American Bullmastiff Association and currently serves as a director and Delegate. Alan was also one of the original Board members of the AKC PAC and still serves.

Professionally, Alan was the CEO and owner of a multinational, multibillion dollar advertising agency employing 1000 people throughout 11 offices in three countries. The company developed Morris Animal Foundation's communications including the Canine

Cancer Campaign, as well as AKC pro bono marketing, and originating "We're more than champion dogs. We're the dog's champion."

Dr. J. Charles Garvin, of Marion, Ohio, has been involved in dogs since 1965, first in obedience, then in Junior Showmanship and conformation. Working with his late mother, his wife and children, his Korcula Kennels, Reg. has produced nearly 90 champions in the breed, most of them owner-handled. He has bred and owned five Best in Show winners and several of the top winners and producers in the breed. He won the Junior Showmanship finals at Westminster in 1969.

An AKC Delegate since 1990, he has served 12 years on the AKC Board of Directors, and seven years on the AKC Canine Health Foundation board. He has served 14 terms as President of the Dalmatian Club of America, and has been on the Board of Directors for 32 years. He has been President of the Marion Ohio KC seven years, and on the board since 1982. First approved as an AKC Judge in 1980, he has judged at the Dalmatian national specialty seven times, Westminster, AENC, and at the 1984 AKC Centennial Show. He is an active ophthalmic surgeon and physician executive.

AKC Board of Directors Class of 2018

James R. Dok, of Shelton, WA, has served as AKC Delegate since 1993, most recently for the Gig Harbor Kennel Club. He is a member of the parent clubs for the Basset Hound, English Setter, Dachshund and Beagle, has been part of the California Federation of Dog Clubs, Inc. since 1991, and is an AKC licensed judge and Breeder of Merit program participant. Dok has continuously served as an AKC Trial Board Officer since his appointment in 1998. He has been part of the All-Breed Club and Strategic Planning Delegate committees and currently serves on the Delegate Advocacy & Advancement Committee, of which he has been a member for 11 years.

Professionally, he has been a Director of the Mason General Hospital Foundation, General Agent of The UNUM INSURANCE GROUP, Senior Vice President/Executive Disability Plans of Benefits Group Worldwide and Managing General Partner of the Paul Revere Insurance Group.

Dr. J. Charles Garvin - See Above

Ronald H. Menaker, of Jupiter, Florida, has been actively involved in the Sport for more than 45 years. Most recently, he served as both Chairman of the AKC Board of Directors and Show Chairman of the AKC/Eukanuba National Championship from 2002 to 2012. A licensed AKC judge since 1994, Menaker is

approved to judge Best in Show and the Sporting, Working, Terrier, Non-Sporting and Toy Groups. He has served on the Board of Overseers for the University of Pennsylvania Veterinary School and as a Trustee of the Morris Animal Foundation. He has also served as Chairman and Vice Chairman of New York Downtown Hospital.

Professionally, Menaker was President of J.P. Morgan Services, where he was responsible for a \$512 million budget and 1,100 employees. He also worked as Managing Director and head of Corporate Services Worldwide for J.P. Morgan. He has served on the Boards of the Atlanta Capital Corporation, the Reckson Associates Realty Corporation and New York University Medical Center.

What is AKC Pet Disaster Relief?

AKC Pet Disaster Relief helps local Emergency Management provide animal care services during the first 72 hours following a disaster... the critical time before FEMA support and services are deployed. Deployment of these trailers will help put an end to post-disaster tragedies have historically affected pet owners, such as: putting themselves in harm's way to save a beloved pet, or even losing a family pet during a disaster.

We want every community to be prepared to help people and their pets for any disaster and its aftermath. That is why AKC Reunite is partnering with local AKC Clubs and their affiliates to raise funds to help supply AKC Pet Disaster Relief trailers to local Emergency Management.

AKC Pet Disaster Relief trailers are stocked with essential, nonperishable necessities for sheltering pets. The supplies can be used to create a safe, temporary home-base for displaced animals and can be used to create one of two types of animal shelters:

- **Co-location Shelters:** A shelter that houses both humans and their animal companions. The people housed at the shelter are responsible for their animal's general care.

- **Lost and Found Pet Shelters:** Displaced animals are housed in what often becomes a pop-up reunion center as people and animals are reunited. Approved volunteers and shelter staff provide animal care.

With AKC Pet Disaster Relief, our ultimate hopes are for:

- Better community preparedness
- More successful local disaster response
- Heightened awareness of the importance of disaster preparedness for their pets
- Peace of mind for pet owners
 - Safe, healthy sheltering environment that includes their pets
 - Happy reunions for separated animals and their human companions despite the chaos around them
- Lives will be saved

If you are a pet lover concerned about the well-being of pets during disasters you can [make a donation](#).

How Does it Work?

The AKC Pet Disaster Relief trailer is stocked with essential supplies to house at least 65 pets the first 72 hours after a disaster is declared. The trailer has lighting and is wired for electricity, to run off either a generator or 110v power supply. Its contents are supplied based on North Carolina's State Animal Response Team expertise in handling hurricanes, floods, fires and tornados.

Following is a sampling of typical contents:

- Administrative Supplies: Log books, Volunteer registration forms, wrist/collar bands, check-in materials
- Maintenance Equipment: Batteries, Gas Can, Duct Tape
- Animal Care: Crates packed on rolling dollies for easy set-up, cat carriers,; litter,

microchips and scanner, bowls, collars and leashes

- Equipment: Fans, Generator, Lighting, Hose
- Cleaning Supplies: Mop, trash can, tarps, litter boxes, disinfectants
- Access to **training materials**: Turnkey implementation of Co-Located Shelters and Pop-up Reunion Centers, Volunteer Mobilization, Decontamination and Replenishment



HAPPY EASTER

AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB REVEALS THE MOST IMPORTANT QUESTIONS TO ASK WHEN GETTING A DOG FROM A SHELTER

New York, NY – Spring has arrived, and the warmer months often prove an ideal time for families to add a pet to their homes. The season can also generate an influx of dogs to shelters as a result of owners who brought home holiday puppies before fully considering the responsibility. Potential owners should always do their research in advance to see what breed best fits their lifestyle, and when acquiring

a dog from a shelter, there are very important questions to ask.

“Adding a dog to your home is a major life decision,” said AKC Spokesperson Lisa Peterson. “It’s important to be armed with a checklist of questions so you can be educated on whether a particular dog will be the right for you, for the life of the dog.”

The American Kennel Club (AKC®) reveals the responsible and necessary questions to ask a shelter before bringing a new dog into your home.

Why is this dog in a shelter? Was he surrendered by the previous owner, is it a stray, or a rescue? Why did the owner surrender him? If he was a stray, where was he found and in what condition? Is the dog from the local area? Is the dog here because of an animal cruelty charge against its previous owner? What was the health condition of the dog when he was brought to the shelter?

Has this dog been adopted out before? How long has the dog been in the shelter?

What veterinary care has the dog received since arriving at the shelter and can you provide copies of the records?

Is the dog housebroken?

Does the dog get along well with kids or other pets and how does he act around strangers?

Does the dog have suitable good manners that I could take away his food bowl while eating or remove his toy while playing? What training and socialization has the dog received since entering the shelter?

Can he walk calmly on a leash in public or does he need more training?

Does this dog require any special medical care, ongoing treatment, dietary restrictions, or additional socialization?

Will the shelter take this dog back if it doesn’t work out with my family?

No matter where you decide to get your new pup, potential owners should always ask questions and do their research. Learn how to find a responsible breeder and what you should look for. If you’re looking to add an adult purebred dog to your home, visit the AKC Rescue Network to find a breed rescue group in your area.

DEADLINE for the May-June newsletter is May 7, 2014

Editors Comments: Please send photos (Photos must be sent as jpeg attachments) directly to me at csweetwood@att.net. Articles should be in MS Word or simply written in your e-mail. Remember to include “TFKC” in the heading or it may never get opened due the high SPAM content these days.