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Thanks 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 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 and the Editor for the upcoming issue.

- **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 a Word document, 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.

- **A submission to Perspectives may not be reproduced in other publications without the written permission of the author and the Perspectives Editor.**

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

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The Coordinator for the December 2018 issue is Joyce Engle, joyengle@comcast.net

The deadline for submission is October 22, 2018 pm with a copy to Sylvia.Thomas@rccd.edu

**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.
It’s been a long hot summer, several consecutive days of triple digit heat, and way too many smoke-filled days with my pool and vehicles covered with ash from the Holy Fire. I’m thankful I wasn’t in harm’s way. Like many of my friends, I began thinking about what I would grab if I had only a few minutes to evacuate. Dogs and people first and then what? I’ve created a list I hope I’ll never need to take in an emergency. It’s an interesting exercise to consider just in case the unexpected occurs.

Over the years, what and how we read has changed. As a Reading teacher at heart, I miss books and magazines. Recently, I was cleaning out a trunk and found copies of Life, Look, and Kennel Review along with old issues of the Gazette and Perspectives. While I miss having them in my hands, I have adapted to reading them online. Not quite the same, but the content, effort and dedication to the production remains the same. I encourage you to read what your fellow Delegates and others have written on the following pages. They have a lot to say and have taken time to share it with you!

If you haven’t heard, the Museum of the Dog is moving to New York. Steven Hamblin helps us get to know Alan Fausel who is charged with the enormous responsibility of overseeing the move, assisting with fundraising, and about a million other things.

To date, roughly half of the Delegates have “opted in” to the new Google Email list. Pat Cruz gives us some background on the new list. I was an “early adopter” and hope that all Delegates take advantage of the opportunity to network, communicate and exchange ideas and information on the Delegates’ Google email list.

Sylvia Arrowwood introduces us to the Azawakh, a new breed joining the Hound Group in 2019. Speaking of new, AKC recently launched the Junior Ambassador Program which encourages Juniors to participate in different club activities. Blaine Grove writes about another great program for youngsters that awards their club participation and encourages them to become Beaglers. Find out what other clubs are doing for Juniors in Monica Henderson Stoner’s column If You Ask Me.

Kathy Gregory shares her Scent Work training puppy primer with us and Joyce Engle reminds us of everything we need to know when looking for a site for a Scent Work Trial.

In this issue, you’ll meet Judith Smith, an accomplished horse and dog woman, who is one of our new Delegates. DAAC has reimagined the New Delegate Orientation and will host the event in a “speed dating” format. Should be interesting!

Vicki Kubic provides insight on a club’s successful use of social media. Have you ever considered Pet Insurance? Erin Tursam has information and tips on the topic.

Steven Hamblin and Bruce Voran introduce provocative and stimulating issues for our consideration. Steven writes about AKC’s legacy and Bruce muses about integrity and sportsmanship.

Finally, War Dogs have been a much written about subject, but Sherry Wallis presents a different story beginning in Gold Rush Alaska, sharing the story of the use of sled dogs in Europe during World War I.

**Delegates, we love hearing from you!**

We welcome your input! Send us your suggestions and articles. What’s on your mind? We are interested in hearing from you and reading about what’s working for your club, your experiences, and/or your opinions about a topic or issue. If you don’t know how to get started or where to begin to bring your article to life, we are here to help.

Contact Sylvia Thomas, Sylvia.Thomas@rccd.edu for information or assistance.
SPEAKING FOR MYSELF
Let’s Think A Little Before We React. Please Take The Time To Read This.

DANIEL J. SMYTH, Esquire, Delegate, Burlington County Kennel Club
CHAIR, Perspectives Editorial Committee

Since becoming an online publication, it seems that not only this column, but much of Perspectives goes unread by a portion of the Delegate Body for whom it is written. We understand that reading an electronic version is not the same as having a hard copy in your hands to read on the plane or elsewhere, but it is our reality. My hope is that as many Delegates as possible read this column and many of the articles in the issue. Please do the committee the honor of reading this and pointing it out to other Delegates and let them know what they are missing!

As an alternative to communicating through a print publication, many Delegates began looking at the Delegate e-list as their source of information. The issue was that the e-list was often wrong, sometimes filled with inaccurate conclusions and inferences which were based on incomplete information. It had become a list of harsh complaints and negative commentary, often voiced by ex-Delegates who were not purged from the list. It was unmonitored for content. It became obvious that there was a need for a better list restricted to active Delegates only and maintained responsibly for their use. The intention was to have a site to share ideas, communicate with one another, and to build our connectivity. This would absolutely be a good thing for the Delegate Body and its growth towards a cohesive community sharing common goals and values. Differences of opinion and viewpoint are healthy and vital, but everyone should feel comfortable participating.

Many of us have recently joined the new “Google” email list and ran head first into what I will call The Museum Debacle. An invitation was received however it was inarticularly drawn by the senders. The reaction was immediate and by all accounts negative. The date for the preview fundraiser was incorrectly assumed to be the opening of the Museum. The timing, two days after the Delegates’ meeting, appeared to be intentionally exclusionary, and great umbrage was taken by many of the Delegates. Their unhappiness was “voiced” on the Delegates’ email list. I watched for about 18 hours over which time, the “slight” became outrage on the part of some. I had to check to see if our new list, in its infancy, was the list where these messages were being posted. Unfortunately, it was. In a flash, the negativity of the old list transferred like a virus to the new list. I could not believe how fast it occurred.

The sad point here is that the invitation was not for the opening of the Museum at all, which takes place in 2019. Rather, this was a preview fundraiser scheduled at a gallery apart from and at a different location entirely. The preview being given was similar to the preview already given to the Delegates by Dominic Carota at a recent Delegates’ meeting. I believe the intent of the invitation was to be inclusive if you were interested in attending and making a significant donation. No new information would be given; in other words, you would have learned nothing new by attending.

My point is not to criticize anyone. It was a perfect storm of improperly presented information received by a sensitized group of people who went down the wrong path in their understanding of what was happening. It is remarkable how fast we reverted to being back on the prior email list. Some of the statements made on our new list, were mirror images of prior negative messaging that we were trying to avoid.

Once the situation was explained, the fires went out quickly, but the ashes remained. Sure people were angry and fuel was added to the flames with anger and assumptions, it grew proportionately. It is unfortunate that this was the reaction and it marked the launch our new informational list.

I don’t walk in anyone’s shoes but my own, and I do not condemn the errors or misunderstandings made by all involved. I only ask that the new list be considered a safe place to properly discuss issues. It’s a great place to question something and obtain a clarification. It’s an appropriate place to share your issues and concerns for your club. It needs to be a
place where all Delegates feel safe and interested in reading the contents. All should feel comfortable questioning something and obtaining the facts. It is not a place for what they used to call flaming (a hostile and insulting interaction). If that happens, people will stop reading and contributing. It will only become a new version of the old list and the readership and participation will be affected.

It’s behind us now, but the aftershock remains. We can never improve by being hostile, we know that is something that makes most of us uncomfortable. My thought here is to give your organization a break. We are all here on a voluntary basis in an organization in which we have dedicated and well-intentioned participation. My suggestion, which is just that, is to consider approaching this new list as a communication tool, and not an outlet for frustration or negative communication. We need everyone to look at this list as a valid source of information and a venue for the exchange of ideas, and to participate in an appropriate manner. Let’s take care of our new list so it remains a source of true information. It might be good to stop and think before we leap in and start a fire. This is our chance to start over and avoid our old propensities. We need this list to be valid and civil. It is up to all of us to make that way.

NEW DELEGATE LIST: WHY GOOGLE? HOW DOES IT WORK?

PAT CRUZ, Delegate, Heart Of The Plains Kennel Club, AKC Board Member

The decision to use the Google platform was made at a Board meeting in late 2017 in response to reports that many Delegates had been hacked using their yahoo email addresses. Who hasn't received a request from a Delegate stranded in a foreign country asking for money to get home or blank emails from Delegates that when opened provided access for hackers or a computer virus? How often have we been asked to add or remove Delegates’ names?

The Board decided it was time to explore other options. Discussion with our talented IT staff concluded that a Google list or platform provided better spam filters than other free mailing lists, and was the most secure way for Delegates to interact with each other, to exchange ideas, to work with Committees, and to share documents and pictures. All of this in an easy-to-use Delegates’ email list, that even the most “tech challenged” Delegates like me could use!

Delegates can join the Delegates’ Google List using any email address. One does not need a Google ‘gmail’ account to participate. Users can get email messages from Delegates as soon as they are posted to the list. Or, Delegates can choose to get messages in digest form sent only once a day or in a form that combines the updates of as many as 25 emails at one time.

Amy Hamernick, Executive Assistant, who stepped into Neil Singer’s position after his retirement, was asked to provide administrative support for the Delegates’ List. She will not have access to content, but will be responsible for adding/removing Delegates to keep the group updated and current. As of mid-July, 350 members of our Delegate body have signed onto the new Delegates’ Google List and hopefully, there are more to come.

Access to the Delegate Group/Google Email List and the Delegate Portal are exclusive to those who are current, approved AKC Delegates. Invitations to the sub-committees will be sent by Amy on behalf of the respective Committee Chairs. Members will be able to work within their Committees and then, when ready, share information such as their minutes, proposals and decisions with the Delegate body. Daniel Smyth, Chair of the Coordinating Committee and Chair of Delegate Advocacy Committee, will serve as moderator for the Delegates’ List.
This change to the email list was made to provide a more secure platform and better spam filters for every Delegate. Tips and troubleshooting will be available on the Delegate Portal. Specific Google list questions will be answered by IT staff during call and screen share sessions that will be announced on the Portal. Submit your questions to akcwebsupport@akc.org. Demo session times and dates will be organized by Seth Fera Schanes, AKC Director Operations and Planning, with an agenda prepared based on Delegate questions.

Thanks to our great IT Staff, Tororraine, Seth, Wlad, and the entire team in New York and Raleigh and, of course, Amy. Their grace, patience and understanding of the whole process as it unfolded and progressed is greatly appreciated. This was a Board of Directors directive and they all stepped up and provided the expertise to make it happen. We are fortunate to have them with us. They go unseen by most Delegates, but knowing they are there for us makes it easy to do what we do for the Clubs, volunteers, and Delegates to help advance AKC’s mission.

MEET ALAN FAUSEL, THE MAN WORKING TO BRING THE MUSEUM OF THE DOG TO LIFE IN NEW YORK CITY

STEVEN HAMBLIN, Delegate, Pekingese Club Of America

On March 5, 2018, the American Kennel Club issued its press release announcing the hiring of Alan Fausel as the Director of AKC Cultural Resources. Once the AKC Museum of the Dog makes its move to New York, and the St. Louis collection is combined with the New York collection (displayed at AKC headquarters), Mr. Fausel’s role will change from focusing on the logistics of relocation to overseeing the Museum in its entirety. In that March press release, Mr. Fausel was quoted as saying, “The Museum has a uniquely beautiful collection of art. I’m excited to help bring these pieces to the thriving art culture of New York and share them with the new audiences from around the world.” Beginning in 2019, the world will be able to see that collection on display.

In the meantime, all of the preparation work – and there’s a lot of it – continues at a snap pace.

I caught up with Alan Fausel to pose some questions so that we could get to know him better, and to understand not only what he does, but what he hopes to see in the future of the Museum.

SH: What brought you to AKC? Can you describe a bit of the recruiting process?

AF: I did an appraisal for the collection in New York in 2008 when I was working for the auction house Bonhams. Last December (2017), Jim Crowley called me in to inquire about updating the appraisal. In the course of our meeting he mentioned that the Museum was moving to New York in 2019 and they were looking for a Director. I knew the AKC collection very well as I had appraised it and helped the collection acquire works over the years. I also had been to visit the Museum in St. Louis on several previous occasions. I also knew the people at the AKC. From 1999-2016 I oversaw a sale of dog art originally with Doyle and Bonhams and then Bonhams
alone. From about 2002 we held “Barkfest,” a charity brunch, on the Sunday morning prior to Westminster, with the funds going to AKC charities. Through that connection I came to know Jim Crowley, Dennis Sprung, Daphna Straus, Gina DiNardo and many others on the AKC staff.

SH: Describe your education, and how your career progressed.
AF: I got my start in Art History at UCLA in the 70s. I had been in pre-med, but went to the Huntington Library and Art Gallery outside Pasadena for classes in British Art. Somewhere along the way, I said, “This is what I want to do.” I went to Stanford for graduate studies in Art History, which led to museum positions at the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco and the Frick Art Museum in Pittsburgh. I then spent 20+ years working for the auction houses Butterfields, Doyle NY and Bonhams primarily in the areas of European and American paintings. Along the way, I have participated in PBS’ Antiques Roadshow for 23 years and will continue to do so. About my transition from the museum world to the auction house and back to the museum, a colleague remarked that I had gone from “Gamekeeper to Poacher and back to Gamekeeper.”

SH: What is your scope of responsibility currently, and how will that change once the Museum opens? How do you spend your days?
AF: These days it is a race against the clock. The responsibilities are daunting. I have to:
- Supervise the deaccession of a number of objects from the present collection
- Oversee a massive move of the entire collection from St. Louis to New York
- Plan an exhibition schedule for the next 3-5 years
- Hire and install a new staff
- Plan and provide content for an array of cutting edge digital interpretations
- Work with the architects on all aspects of the build-out of the new Museum
- Implement a new inventory system for the collection
- Help construct a new website
- Assist with Museum fundraising
- Oversee the move of the AKC collection from the present offices to their new spaces at 101 Park Avenue
- Plan a marketing strategy for the opening of the Museum and beyond
- Prepare for a gala fundraiser at the opening
- Reincorporate the present Museum in New York.

The list seems endless. Going forward, once we are up and running, there will be an exhibition and programming schedule that will focus on the purebred dog, service dogs, and dogs in general. It is a great opportunity for the AKC to show the world who we are and how we are integral to the Sport of Dogs and to maintaining the health and treatment of dogs overall.

SH: Were you aware of the AKC’s private art collection prior to interviewing for your role? What were your impressions when you finally saw the collection for the first time?
AF: As I mentioned above, I was aware and very familiar with the collection in New York for years, having contributed to it in some sense and appraising it as well. I also had a knowledge of the St. Louis collection, however, was a bit surprised at the number of objects that had accumulated in storage over the years.

SH: What are your thoughts and hopes about combining the AKC’s private collection with the existing Museum’s collection that is moving from St. Louis?
AF: It is a great opportunity to show what we really have. There are fabulous objects in both locations.
HAMBLIN, cont’d

We now have the chance to mix and match the collections rather freely through exhibitions, as they will be under one roof.

SH: The focus of the Museum seems to be “the dog” in fine art, but there are also the accompanying artifacts (trophies and collectibles) that touch on the Sport of Dogs. Do you see a future where more of the history of the Sport is celebrated and displayed? If so, what would that look like? If not, why not?

AF: Actually, there will be a lot of emphasis on the Sport. We will have interactive displays focusing on “Meet the Breeds” as well as a “Hall of Fame” featuring famous champions as well as other dogs. Perhaps most importantly, there will be a portion of the Museum dedicated to our library and archives. It will be introduced by a display featuring the AKC and its long history. Housing more general volumes that would be of interest to the general public, it will serve as a gateway to our archives that will be maintained on the fifth floor of the building for those enthusiasts who wish to delve further into the Sport.

SH: For years, dog art has been in demand and selling for a premium to both avid collectors and to interior designers. Do you think the Museum’s high-profile opening in New York will impact the market of dog memorabilia and collectibles? Should we all be collecting NOW??

AF: I wish I could tell you that the interest in collecting dog related art was burgeoning. Alas, it is not. Across the board, younger generations are not picking up on traditional activities. They are often described as being more interested in the experience rather than the obtaining. I hope the collections and displays will get them engaged in the Sport as a new experience and perhaps seeing such a wonderful collection they may be interested in owning the art.

SH: What do you want the Delegates to know about the Museum, and how can we best help you achieve success from day one?

AF: I think the best way is to come and visit us when we are open and hopefully become a member. We are planning on doing something special for the Delegates at the March 2019 meeting after we are open. Stay tuned for more details.

SH: Please share any personal or anecdotal information about your life as it relates to dogs.

AF: My wife and I lost our English Springer Spaniel after 14 years. We recently welcomed a Welsh Springer Spaniel puppy to our home. Prior to my life at AKC, I had been just a “painting guy.” We are now looking at joining the Sport and showing her in the future.

Please welcome Alan Fausel to our AKC family! Join the Museum as a member when it opens. Take your friends and family to visit the Museum when you are in the greater New York metropolitan area. When you see Alan and his wife ringside at a show, encourage them. And watch for him on PBS’ “Antiques Roadshow.”
On January 1, 2019 the Azawakh will receive full AKC recognition and will compete in the Hound Group rounding out the number of breeds in the group to 32. The Azawakh is an ancient sighthound breed originating in West Africa and more precisely the Sahara Desert and the Azawakh Valley. For hundreds of years the Azawakh accompanied the desert nomads as a sleek, slender, swift hunter which was its original purpose as well as guarding the tent and family from strangers. But due to the dwindling amount of game, today it is mostly utilized as a home alert dog and a family pet.

The Azawakh to the unanointed AKC dog person might be mistaken for a Saluki or Sloughi as the three breeds have many similarities. That said, the Azawakh is more similar to the Sloughi than the Saluki. The body length of the Azawakh is 90 percent of its height so it presents as a vertical rectangle in shape, higher than long. There is an overall impression of elegant fineness. Weight of males is 44 to 55 pounds and females range from 33 to 44 pounds. If the dogs are in correct, acceptable weight, the bone structure and muscles are transparent beneath the skin, and three to five ribs can be seen, Heads are long, fine boned, with skulls extremely flat and elongated.

Gait is very light, almost as if floating. At a trot the front foot should not extend past the end of the nose. At a gallop, the dog appears to be leaping. The Azawakh’s movement is light and agile and is an essential element of the breed.

Because the Azawakh lived a nomadic desert life for hundreds of years, it is best for owners to start early with socialization with other dogs and touching and training with human companions. This breed is described as having the “intelligence and heart to protect” and was bred for centuries to be wary of strangers. It would be wise to introduce the Azawakh to others who visit the home as the breed can be distant and reserved with strangers.

As is true of many breeds, the Azawakh is not the breed for everyone. The breed has some very interesting and desirable traits. As an example, the breed is simple to groom; there is no drooling; and no to low barking.

If this brief introduction has piqued your interest on the Azawakh, more information is available at www.akc.org, www.azawakhs.org, and of course you can check out the Internet for a ton of other interesting facts and pictures. Thanks to Deb Kidwell of the American Azawakh Association who furnished me with these interesting facts about the breed.
AKC’s Juniors Organization, in collaboration with the AKC Public Education Department, launched the AKC Junior Ambassador Program at the Educational Summit on June 10, 2018. Realizing that not all junior handlers have the time or means to compete in events every weekend, the Junior Ambassador creative team, led by Mari-Beth O’Neill, V.P. Sport Services, sought a way to recognize Juniors who participate in the sport beyond the sole activity of event participation. “Junior handlers are smart, eager to learn, and have a desire to help.” per Mari-Beth, “We thought, what better way to not only encourage Juniors to participate in different activities, but also to encourage clubs…”

We thought, what better way to not only encourage Juniors to participate in different activities, but also to encourage clubs... to connect with the families of 4-H members who might want to join your club. If you would like the special CP/PAL/Junior form we have created for 4-H members, please send a request to juniors@akc.org and we can email you a copy, along with instructions for submitting the 4-H members CGC/Trick Dog applications for processing.

The team created a chart of activities that a Junior could complete to earn the Junior Ambassador Pin. Juniors must complete at least six activities from three categories to be eligible for the Junior Ambassador pin. This unique pin was created to recognize Juniors who participate in the program.

A new pin will be issued each successive year a Junior completes the required activities. Juniors may submit additional ideas via email to juniors@akc.org or publiced@akc.org.
This issue, it’s my pleasure to introduce you to Judith Smith, new Delegate for the Doberman Pinscher Club of America (DPCA). Judith is accomplished as both a dog and horse woman and I look forward to visiting with her at a future meeting. I could tell you more, but better to have Judith tell you herself!

I acquired my first Doberman in 1968 from the Spaffords, who were well-known breeders from San Francisco. Mr. Spafford was an Obedience person and Mrs. Spafford was a Conformation person, and DPCA President long ago. While I was a novice to dog shows, I was experienced with horses. I was able to win some points on my male, but when corporate and my company came calling, I turned my dog over to Marj Brooks, professional dog handler, who easily finished him. I was familiar with the “show world” with my Hanoverian horses which I bred and showed. Adapting to dog shows was easy enough since I had been involved with showing animals.

I worked for American Airlines and my job changed as I moved into a corporate setting which required a move to the new headquarters in the Dallas/Fort Worth area. My job gave me access to the European horse breeding market as well as being able to work and ride in European dressage barns, specifically. I was able to acquire top breeding stock from Europe when dressage was becoming a popular discipline here in the states.

I had a great foundation of “pedigree stars” and had multi BIS, BISS, and Top 20 dogs of my breeding. I was very proud of the dogs Margaret Downey and I sent to the show ring. I’ve always considered myself to be a horse person first and as a result, soundness and the ability of an animal to use itself is very important. I went into judging in 2002 and now adjudicate the Working Group and most of the Sporting Group in addition to Best in Show. I’ve served on many committees with DPCA as Chair of the Lifetime Achievement Committee, Board member, and was Chief Ring Steward for the DPCA National for nearly 16 years.

It’s an honor to serve my breed club as a Delegate. I look forward to the education I’m beginning to gain at the meetings and to the opportunity of making new friends.

Thank You!

Special thanks to Issue Coordinator, Sherry Wallis, who helped with the collection, submission, and reviewing of articles for this issue. I’d like to acknowledge the help of Perspectives members, Don James and Steven Hamblin for their time and assistance with proofing. Monica Henderson Stoner, Assistant Editor, is consistent in her help with proofing of articles and a great sounding board for ideas and suggestions. Finally, kudos to Delegates for submitting articles and contributing to the issue. We appreciate your interest and the sharing of your ideas and experiences with us!
WHERE ON EARTH?

JOYCE ENGLE, Delegate, Northeastern Maryland Kennel Club

Your club is chafing at the bit to join the Scent Work Trials game and they want YOU to lead the charge. So where on earth are you going to find locations for your Scent Work Trials? It can be challenging, but it’s fun and you can do it! There are four steps to finding where to hold a Scent Work Trial: 1) brainstorming, 2) process of elimination, 3) visiting, and 4) final cut. Begin brainstorming by listing places that may work well for a trial. Can you hold the trial along with club shows or trials to save money and combine resources? If not you should consider halls (churches, fire, social and community), recreation centers, fair grounds, police departments, colleges, schools, dog shelters, dog kennels, parks, farms, and camps to name a few. Some places provide discounted or free space to not-for-profit and non-profit organizations.

Move on to step two, the process of elimination. First consider what is unacceptable to your club to rule out locations and save yourself time. My club had a list of requirements: safety, parking, bathrooms, potty area for dogs, member training, and making enough money to cover costs. The entire site needs to be safe for dogs, exhibitors, and volunteers. Don’t even consider the site if safety could be an issue. We needed at least fifty parking spaces for exhibitors or the location was ruled out. Parking, bathrooms or porta potties must be provided, but their locations can’t allow a line of sight into any outdoor search area. The income from trial entries must be sufficient to cover the rent plus other trial expenses. Anything more is a bonus! Limiting entries to fifty or sixty helps volunteers learn new roles and is hopefully enough to pay the bills!

For the process of elimination, there are simple tricks to help you determine parking space and potential trial flow. Most places have a website you can use to look for potential search areas, or you can use Google Maps to enter the facility address. If you select the satellite in the left corner, you can zoom in to count parking spaces. If you know the site at all, you may even be able to determine if the flow would be safe. You will need an AED (Automated External Defibrillator) on site or an ambulance. A veterinarian should also be nearby. Don’t forget that we must be compliant with ADA requirements, see http://images.akc.org/pdf/2018/ADA-compliance-checklist-032018.pdf for details.

Reviewing this checklist may eliminate a site and save you time before any contacts or visits are made. Always think about any normal operations that could intersect with the trial area. Can you hold the trial in a way that doesn’t interfere with normal operations? Interfering with business operations or another event can be dangerous or at the very least disruptive for everyone.

Visiting potential sites is step three. Contact the compliant sites and arrange to meet with those in charge. Remember that most classes can be held outdoors. However, if outdoors, you may want searches under a pavilion. This keeps things dry and equal for each dog. If a facility is concerned about spills indoors, you can put a tarp down to protect the floor. When visiting, measure each area that you could potentially use. This will tell you the highest difficulty level you can offer at a trial. You can find element and space requirement tables in Chapter 7, pages 40, 44, and 47 of the Regulations for Scent Work http://images.akc.org/pdf/rulebooks/RSW001.pdf. Discuss the trial flow carefully. Photograph the search areas so you remember all the places, especially large places like camps. You will then also have photos to send to any judge that you hire. Also, check for line of sight, air flow and safety. You may need extra volunteers to keep exhibitors away from an area or make large blinds. Make sure an exhibitor walking nearby can’t hear an “Alert.” This is an unfair advantage as to where the hide is located. Finally, if you are still interested in the site, check for available dates and any rental fees.

After seeing the locations, it’s on to step four, the final cut! You’re well on your way to selecting trial location(s) and sending in applications. For each location you select, determine which classes and difficulty levels you can offer, create a budget and consider the dates available. Check for conflicts with your club’s scheduled events that may narrow down your choices. Is there a place for exhibitor
check in? Put a lot of thought into trial flow! What if your flow is exemplary, but there are no restrooms near search area(s) for volunteers and judges? You’ll need a relief team to keep the trial moving. Dogs can become reactive because of the hunt drive and food rewards, so it’s critical with regard to safety, to plan how dogs will enter and exit each search area. This is when you’ll need those pictures you took at each location. You will probably want to get more pictures!

With the trial flow in mind, you can also determine the number of volunteers you need. If you have limited volunteers, you can limit the number of classes. Perhaps there’s a club nearby that has experience and can help. If so, rotate your club volunteers into different roles to learn from them! Make sure you take care of the volunteers! You know how much space you need for hospitality now. This area should be covered, have seats for volunteers and judges, electricity and water for breakfast and lunch. Can you provide pop-up tents in staging areas and seating for volunteers and exhibitors? Does the facility provide tables and chairs or will you need to bring them? The hospitality area can possibly double as the trial chair’s area. If large enough, it may work for the awards ceremony too.

Where on Earth can be challenging and fun. Now you can do it! The first time we do something, it’s challenging. Each time afterwards, it becomes easier.

Don’t be afraid of exploring to find … where on Earth!

**UNDERSTANDING PET INSURANCE IN 2018**

*Erin Tursam, Marketing Manager, AKC Pet Insurance*

With the popularity of pet insurance on the rise, breeders are getting more and more puppy buyers inquiring about pet insurance. Should I get it? What does it cover? Is it worth it? What does it cost? As a breeder, you want to be able to answer those questions.

Pet insurance has seen immense growth in recent years, and is making huge strides in what it can offer pet owners. What you knew about pet insurance ten years ago is most likely dramatically different from what it is today.

**A Shift in Thinking**

A recent Harris Poll showed that 91% of pet owners consider their pets as family, and 81% consider them as equal to human members of the household. Those are some encouraging statistics! With more and more pet owners considering their pets as family, they are also caring for them like family, which means more visits to the vet and higher quality veterinary care. High-quality care comes at a cost.

According to the 2017-2018 American Pet Product Association (APPA) National Pet Owners Survey, US pet owners spent over $17 billion on veterinary care in 2017. This staggering statistic is indicative of the shift in thinking of American pet owners which is resulting in more and more pet owners turning to pet insurance as a means to help keep their pets healthy.

**Pet Insurance on the Rise**

The 2018 North American Pet Health Insurance Association (NAPHIA) State of the Industry Report revealed that the number of insured pets in the United States saw a 17.5% increase in 2017 with the majority of insured pets being dogs at 84%. Despite this impressive growth, still only 1.7% of dogs are insured in the United States.

**The Breeder is the Authority**

Education and awareness begin with authority figures, like breeders and veterinarians. The breeder is often the first interaction a puppy buyer has with a seasoned pet expert. This is why it is so important that breeders have a solid understanding of pet insurance and can confidently talk about it with their puppy buyers and to answer their questions. Puppy buyers are going to get the information from somewhere. Make sure they are getting accurate, reputable information, and let that somewhere be from you!

**Straight from the Pet Owner’s Mouth**

The #1 reason pet owners invested in pet insur-
ance is to be able to “make decisions about their pet’s healthcare without worrying about whether or not they can afford treatment.” Anyone who has been faced with a large veterinary bill can identify with this sentiment.

Many new puppy owners may not know to plan for such unforeseen events. One of the many ways a puppy buyer benefits from choosing an AKC breeder is all the knowledge and expertise they can provide. Breeders use their experiences to help guide their puppy buyers into making good decisions for their puppy’s future, which includes decisions about healthcare and pet insurance.

Breeder Resources
Before sending their puppies off to their new homes, good breeders ensure their puppy buyers have all the tools and resources they need to get off to a good start. This includes information about AKC registration, vaccination records, proper nutrition, basic training, safety, and more. If you aren’t already providing it, consider adding pet insurance to that list.

What Breeders Need (and Want) to Know

A lot of questions and misconceptions surround pet insurance. Below are answers to some of the most commonly asked questions.

What is pet insurance and how does it differ from human health insurance?

Pet insurance works slightly differently than human health insurance due to differences in insurance laws and regulations. Many of the frustrations with pet insurance are actually out of the insurance provider’s control. Much is dictated by individual state insurance regulation or underwriting rules.

How does pet insurance work and what vets can I go to?

Pet insurance works on a reimbursement basis, which allows pet owners to go to any licensed veterinarian of their choice within the United States and Canada, including veterinary specialists and emergency clinics.

The pet owner pays the vet for the services rendered, submits a claim, and then the insurance provider reimburses the pet owner for eligible expenses. Time to process claims varies with insurance companies.

How much does it cost and what affects premium amounts?

The average premium amount for a dog in the United States in 2017 was $44 per month. AKC Pet Insurance monthly premiums can range anywhere from $10 per month to $100+ per month depending on the coverage and limits chosen.

The key factors that affect premium costs are: age of dog, geographic location (zip code), breed/size of dog, and coverage chosen. Annual rate increases can occur, however at AKC Pet Insurance, rate increases are completely objective and not based on an individual dog’s health status, number of claims filed, or amount paid in claims.

The biggest factor affecting cost is what coverage options were chosen. AKC Pet Insurance offers customizable plans. Pet owners can build a plan that meets their individual needs and budget by choosing their own coverage, deductible, coinsurance, and limits.

When should I get insurance and how do I get started?

The younger the better, however, puppies must be 8 weeks of age or older to be eligible for coverage, so the answer is—as soon as the new puppy owner gets them home! The younger the puppy, the lower your premium, and they are less likely to have any pre-existing conditions.

AKC Pet Insurance makes it easy for breeders to help their puppy buyers get started with the 30-Day Pet Insurance Certificate. This is a benefit included with AKC registration that provides new registrants in most states with 30 days of accident and illness insurance coverage at no cost to the breeder or puppy buyer. Puppy buyers simply complete their...
AKC registration and activate the policy. The policy does not require that a credit card be provided or require a commitment to enroll; the policy automatically expires in 30 days.

What does it cover?
Pet insurance is not just for unexpected accidents, illnesses and emergencies. AKC Pet Insurance offers coverage for routine and preventative care, exam fees, hereditary and congenital conditions, alternative and holistic care, behavioral issues, and more.

Insurance covers the common and more advanced treatments and diagnostics like x-rays, ultrasounds, CT scans, MRIs, hospitalization, surgery, lab tests, prescription medications, physical therapy, cancer care, and emergency care. (Note: The treatments and diagnostics listed above are only covered when being used to diagnose or treat an illness or injury that is eligible for coverage under the policy.)

Become a Pet Insurance Expert Breeder
There have been a lot of changes and advancements in pet healthcare in recent years, including improvements in pet insurance. Pet insurance is here to stay and is only getting better. Now is the time to become a pet insurance expert breeder so that the next time a puppy buyer asks you, “What about pet insurance?” you can correctly answer their questions with confidence!

Whether you want to learn about pet insurance for the first time or learn about what’s changed in the industry, you can take advantage of the resource you have as an AKC breeder! Conveniently, AKC breeders have direct access to a pet insurance resource through AKC Pet Insurance, provided by PetPartners, Inc., the exclusive pet insurance provider of the American Kennel Club since 2003. Though a breeder-specific insurance policy is not yet available, AKC Pet Insurance offers breeders many resources in order to help their puppy buyers select coverage that meets their needs. AKC breeders have direct access to a Breeder Support Specialist, who can help with breeder-specific questions and concerns. Additionally, there are a variety of benefits and discounts exclusive to AKC registered puppies.

Visit www.akcpetinsurance.com/breeders.

Note: There are many companies offering Pet Insurance. Buyers should carefully explore each and make an informed decision in selecting the plan and company that best meets their needs.

IF YOU ASK ME
MONICA HENDERSON STONER, Delegate, Saluki Club Of America

“We asked Delegates….

“What does your club do to encourage Juniors? This could be at shows, at trials, with memberships or scholarships.”

Steven Hamblin, Delegate, Pekingese Club of America
A cluster that I belong to in Santa Barbara (Simi Valley KC, Santa Barbara KC, and Los Encinos KC) all agreed this year to waive the entry fee for Juniors for the weekend. Personally, I would like to see the Superintendents and AKC waive their fees for Juniors (which are still absorbed by the host clubs) so that clubs are not out of pocket or forced to raise other entry fees to offset costs.

Barbara Mann, Ph.D., Delegate, Dayton Dog Training Club
The biggest thing we do is to give juniors a highly discounted entry fee for all of our trials. At our Obedience and Rally trials, for example, first entry for everybody else is $25, but all entries for juniors are $10.

Sylvia Thomas, Delegate, Kennel Club of Riverside
My Club has taken a couple of important steps in supporting Juniors. The entry fee for Junior Showmanship has been eliminated. It is now free to enter Junior Showmanship. At this year’s shows, the award for Juniors is a Director’s Chair from the Club and a $25 gift certificate donated by a vendor. In 2017, with Johnny Shoemaker’s help and guidance, the Club held its first Pee Wee Event. It has
now become an annual part of our show. We have asked the Superintendent to avoid scheduling Junior Showmanship during the lunch hour to enable and encourage Juniors to watch the Pee Wees and to help. We try to get the word out about both Junior Showmanship and Pee Wee by reaching out to the local 4H group and email announcements to the Superintendent’s list serve.

**Jon Green, Delegate, Central Ohio Kennel Club**

In my opinion, Central Ohio Kennel Club has not done the best, and we have no junior members at this point, but we are trying. We did have one, but she aged out, and we have no others.

We do each year award two Youth Awards (not scholarships). They are not predicated on attendance or showing at our shows, but are based on a submitted essay, 400-600 words in length, detailing the activities of the junior in the sport, in school, in their extracurricular activities, with a heavy weighting on GPA. We decided it was unfair to have younger compete against older, and established two age divisions, 9-16 and 17-21. We established a uniform set of criteria to evaluate the essays, and this past year, with input from Cathy Rubens and Mari-Beth O’Neill, put out the announcement on Facebook Juniors page. We ended up with 123 entries. It is interesting to note that for the past three years, AKC has also awarded, in their case, Scholarships, to at least one of our winners each year. With that, we think we have sound criteria. The one area I advocate we change is to require junior membership in an all breed club, while now we simply award 5 points in our competition for membership; three points for a parent club membership. We think building relationships in a parent club is important, but vital for an All-Breed Club.

**Monica Henderson Stoner, Delegate, Saluki Club of America**

Junior Showmanship entries fell off for the Saluki National, and SCOA chose the option to combine classes, holding only Novice and Open. To encourage participation, we reduced then eliminated the entry fee. We also added a Junior membership category and revitalized the Esther Bliss Knapp Junior Scholarship award. A small group of Saluki people helped continue the Junior coaching at the National along with a pizza party and in the last few years they added a water balloon fight.

Pee Wee Juniors debuted at the 2018 National, encouraging an exciting number of young Saluki owners who attended the entire five days of National competition. Seven competed for judge Robert Frost. I had the honor of judging this year’s Junior Showmanship entry of twelve, ranging from first show to polished competitors. The connection between handler and Saluki gave promise to a new generation of Saluki enthusiasts. Next year we will offer the entire range of Junior Showmanship classes.

If you were wondering, one thousand water balloons were deployed to help burn off energy.
We are on the cusp of great transition with the AKC. The headquarters are packing up and preparing to move to the new offices in the Kalikow Building at 101 Park Avenue. Simultaneously, the AKC Museum of the Dog is packing up in St. Louis as it prepares to move to New York City and blend with the AKC’s “private” fine art collection that has adorned the walls of the New York offices. This move launches a grand public foray into elevating awareness of the purebred dog. There is no doubt that in this age of dog fanatics in the United States, the Museum will find ample attendance from interested people eager to celebrate all things “dog” in a beautiful setting in the middle of one of the great cultural centers of the world. Only time will tell if the public relations blitz that will naturally accompany the opening of the Museum will actually move the needle on public perception of purpose-bred dogs, and whether or not the Museum will function, long term, as the public relations tool that we all hope it will be. The human/canine connection is formidable, and there will always be a need for man to want to celebrate and “see” his best friend. As a “Club of Clubs,” what is the AKC’s responsibility to the membership that is the foundation of the AKC? Dogs in art predate the AKC, but proliferation of images of dogs in fine art exploded in the Victorian Era and complement the creation and growth of the AKC. As we look at paintings of specific breeds – not only images capturing their purpose (i.e. engaged in the hunt), but of imagery celebrating their beauty (generally in vanity pieces commissioned by proud owners) – we are faced with the eternal chicken/egg question. Did the dogs create interest in dog sports, or did dog sports create interest in specific breeds? Answering that question really defines the AKC and its ongoing responsibility. Did the AKC fulfill a need or create a need? That question holds the crux of AKC’s responsibility in Stewarding our Legacy.

If our Legacy is solely advocating for and advancing purebred dogs, AKC has done a formidable job creating a full-service operation truly championing dog causes. We have so much to be proud of in the Canine Health Foundation, Reunite, Pet Disaster Relief, the Humane Fund, the Museum, and Government Relations – to name but a few. Our leadership at the AKC has thoughtfully rounded out and expanded the reach of the AKC in an attempt to position the AKC as the “go to” resource for all things dog. The Museum enhances this portfolio. But being the Dogs’ Champion entails so much more than advocacy and elevating awareness. The Achilles Heel in my opinion, is in how we choose to focus on the Library and Archives moving forward, for therein lies the documentation of our history in all of its successes and struggles.

In previous articles, I’ve advocated for individuals to take the mantle of recording and transmitting the legacy of the people in our sport who define excellence and quality within our respective breeds. In some instances, those key people may have been hard workers whose contributions advanced our clubs to keep them alive for future generations. I’ve also admonished clubs and their boards to stay focused on making choices and decisions that advance the sport, the breed, and the club for the benefit of future generations. And, I’ve encouraged those clubs to continue to record, share, and store their histories for posterity. Each piece of this puzzle has ownership in our collective drive to advance purebred dogs and dog sports. What do we expect and require of the American Kennel Club in the big picture? Since the mission of the AKC includes promoting the sport of dogs and breeding for type and function, there is an intrinsic responsibility to catalog and store appropriate materials narrating that journey. The sheer volume of data AKC logs on studs, litters, and points and titles earned certainly encapsulates the competitive portion of the sport, while recording the advancement of bloodlines. Moreover, the Executive Secretary – through the various divisions within the executive offices – has basic history of the activity of clubs: date added to AKC membership, logged correspondence, number of shows held, and locations of those shows.
The existing Library and Archives houses printed catalogs from 1877-1983, studbooks, The Gazette (and other bound periodicals), and some archived material that has been donated over the years which is relevant to people and dog sports. Is all of this enough to create an historical narrative of “who” we are: the members who make up a Club of Clubs?

I don’t know that the AKC should be the repository for the collections of various clubs lacking space or expertise to house their own archival material. The Archivist can certainly be a great resource to help clubs understand how to curate and manage their own collections. But does the value of having a central repository outweigh the potential loss of a member club’s heritage should that club lack the ability to carry on their own collection of historical documentation? Is there an audience or will there be a future demand for the ephemera of dog sports extending back over a century – so much so that the cost of a central repository makes fiscal sense? In my own experience, had the Library and Archives not held data about my local Specialty Club, I would never have been able to reconstruct the rich history of a once prominent club in Los Angeles society. My research and subsequently compiled data has inspired my club members to seek ways to return to the prominence of our early roots. We may not find the membership nor the funding to match the “quality of life” that our club enjoyed in the Roaring Twenties, but we can proudly celebrate our role in the rich fabric of the history of our club while seeking to emulate the passion, drive, and joy of those who came before. Our history has taught us the significance of the Pekingese in California, and we know that our small core of members today shares the enthusiasm of our founders more than 100 years ago.

I have grand ideas and romantic notions of what the future could and should be. As with all dreamers and romantics, money is not a consideration! I envision a world-class and world-renowned research center where breed enthusiasts, researchers, students, and journalists can find their needed resources for whatever their project may be. I see the AKC Library and Archives as the “go to” resource for all things dog. (It’s important to note that I firmly believe that the next tide of interest has yet to surge, but will come – and that we need to prepare now for the demand of the future.) People should not be looking to the Kennel Club in England for resources and references, nor should institutions of higher learning be holding our resources in their research centers. The first thought of anyone seeking knowledge and information about purebred dogs and the sports that celebrate them should be the American Kennel Club. But, alas, that is one man’s dream – and it exists in a world where money is no object. The reality is that the space and human resources needed to acquire, manage, and house that vast a collection is considerable – as is the price to pay for it.

As fanciers, sporting enthusiasts, and representatives of member clubs of the American Kennel Club, we need to decide how we define our Legacy. If it’s enough to be The Advocate for purebred dogs, then we can celebrate our wins while seeking ways to refine and advance our purpose. But you cannot gauge a milestone if you don’t set a marker from the start. Our history tells us where we’ve come from and how far we’ve come, and allows us to see how much further we need to go. Recorded history tells us the ebbs and flows within the sport and within breeds. The documentation of our beginnings reminds us why we’re here, and inspires us to perpetuate those grand founding principles. And a resource library tells future generations how we started, how we progressed, and, in many instances, how we passed into obscurity. If you build it, will they come? We are on the cusp of great transition with AKC.
“Sportsmen commit themselves to values of fair play, honesty, courtesy and vigorous competition, as well as winning and losing with grace.”

“Many believe that these principles of sportsmanship are the prime reason why our sport has thrived for over one hundred years.”

• They Call It Integrity: Wholeness, Soundness

General William F. Dean was the highest-ranking American soldier captured during the Korean War. He was told to write a letter to his wife and, assuming he would be taken out and shot the next morning, he wrote only a few lines. One of those lines read: “Tell Bill the word is integrity.”

What would any of us write to our only son? Something of happiness, success, popularity or security? Dean chose integrity. A word that means wholeness or soundness, a serious striving after an incorruptible character. Integrity is expressed in the AKC Code of Sportsmanship. Reprinted in catalogs at dog events, but equally overlooked and not read.

Many years ago a town was destroyed by fire. All the chimneys built by a certain firm were still standing while others crumbled and fell. At the base of a standing chimney was a plaque that read: “This chimney was built by such and such a company who are [sic] still in business and still doing honest work for their customers.”

• “Shared Values”

Those elected to the AKC Board of Directors, Delegate Committees or who are AKC employees, as well as those who attend Delegate Meetings need to value personal integrity. We who judge or serve on show committees or exhibit our dogs at Conformation shows, Performance, or Companion Events must cherish our personal integrity and that of others. In 2001 at our September meeting, many ran to the window to look across the river at the tragedy unfolding in New York. Many of the AKC family hurried to find portable x-ray machines and medical supplies for the injured search and rescue dogs. This is prefaced in the AKC Code of Sportsmanship as “shared values.”

• Wobbly On The Truth, Growing Crisis In Ethics And Integrity

Rex Tillerson, former US Secretary of State, spoke on May 17, 2018 at the graduation ceremonies for Virginia Military Institute. He talked about the nation’s “growing crisis in ethics and integrity” and about our leaders who “conceal the truth.” “When we as people, a free people, go wobbly on the truth, even on what may seem the most trivial of matters, we go wobbly on America.” His remarks were aimed not only at political or private individuals and businesses, but also at non-profit organizational structures. Being whole and being complete, ethically and morally, will serve as building blocks of a successful future. Otherwise, the citizenry of a free peoples, as well as organizational structures as meaningful as AKC is to us and their employees, will become as if they were builders of poorly constructed chimneys that at critical moments crumble.

• Integrity Has Many Faces And Right Answer Solutions

Integrity has many faces shaped by the factors of individualism and societal, ethnic, and geographical individualization. Freedom of individualism reaches for the progression of higher values. Individualization shapes the view that fears the corrosion of social cohesion and other negative symptoms. A solution where there is a “right answer” is not the resolution of these views. A more precise view is of the content and of the different framework in which the concept of integrity expressed in the AKC’s Code of Sportsmanship can be implemented.

• Several Colors, Black, White, And Shades Of Gray

The word integrity gives rise to an argument of definition. Integrity comes in several colors, black, white, and shades of gray. Black and white morality as advocated by Tillerson seems less common now than shades of gray. This change in ethical boundaries comes about as recent generations are reluctant to accept something as right or wrong just because authority or tradition has proclaimed it to be. Moral freedom is where people tend to determine their own morality. Some declare that it is not
possible to eliminate all moral uncertainties. Gray areas can be useful especially where a theoretical structure of right or wrong is not available. The choice to not make a choice between right and wrong is not always a neutral choice in that gray areas provide wiggle room in coping with ethical dilemmas.

**Fears**

General George Patton has said: “The time to take counsel of your fears is before you make an important battle decision. That's the time to listen to every fear you can imagine! When you have collected all the facts and fears and made your decision, turn off all your fears and go ahead!”

Fear may encourage or cause one to not say anything or to act wisely. Facts founded on integrity, ethics, morality, and personal character need not be overridden by fears. *A shameless disregard of the essence of integrity need not be realized.*

**The Sound Of Silence**

Silence does not necessarily imply consensus or acceptance that integrity is a foundation upon which AKC’s Code of Sportsmanship is built. To remain silent may simply imply that the concept is correct and nothing further need be said. Or, the topic is utter nonsense. Or, voicing an opinion one way or another is just not worth the effort. There is, however, a burden to speak should there be a disagreement whether or not a violation of the Code and the integrity upon which it was built actually occurs.

In the face of a violation of the Code, it is unwise to remain silent. By ignoring negative interpersonal behaviors, a powerful message is sent to ‘do more of that.’ To use negative interpersonal behaviors or simply look the other way, to allow people to sabotage each other to win rewards, and withhold information from one another to appear more powerful, creates a culture endorsing negative interpersonal behaviors. “Permitting” sabotage and withholding information by not noticing and/or not addressing behaviors, is to endorse more negative behaviors that people may see as similar, like bullying and harassment. Inadvertently a message is sent that condones negative behavior in a broader context.

**It Is Neither Safe Nor Right To Go Against Conscience**

Martin Luther in 1521 said in a different context related to his writings that “…it is neither safe nor right to go against conscience.” At least one of the handwritten transcripts of the proceedings recorded that Luther concluded his defense of his works in German. “Hier stele ich. Ich kann nicht anders.” (Translation: “Here I stand. I can do no other.”) He might just as well have been defending AKC’s Code of Sportsmanship today.

There are decisions we, as Delegates, will make primarily for the benefit of the dog show world based on our belief in the AKC Code of Sportsmanship. “*Sportsmen commit themselves to values of fair play, honesty, courtesy and vigorous competition, as well as winning and losing with grace.*” This adherence must extend to life that continues well after the Delegates’ luncheon is but a distant memory.

“Many believe that these principles of sportsmanship are the prime reason why our sport has thrived for over one hundred years.” Our work as AKC Delegates may seem to end with chocolate covered cheesecake in Newark or Orlando, or at our local dog shows. It does not! The AKC Code of Sportsmanship touches all things and reaches beyond time and geography.

**Integrity Is The Word**

Integrity is a word that is not wobbly on truth nor a shade of gray. It is a word that “reaches beyond time and geography.” *It is a word, a Code, that must be defended at all cost.*
Facebook is the perfect venue for Parent, Regional and Local clubs to showcase our wonderful purebred dogs! The American Miniature Schnauzer Club (AMSC) has been on Facebook since 2009. I have been managing the page since 2014. After 4 years "on the job" I have ironed out a lot of the kinks and have a good feel for what works and what doesn’t work. Visit our Facebook page to get a better idea of the way it is used.

https://www.facebook.com/AmericanMiniSchnauzerClub/

This will give you an idea of the demographics we’ve developed. We have about 37,000 followers. Our followers are mostly female, 72%; 56% are between the ages of 25-64, and 70% live in the US.

To engage our existing followers and encourage new followers, I try to keep the page on the lighter side yet also use it to educate. I try to use a mix of about 70% light and 30% education so I don’t lose too many followers in the process. That education includes federal legislative issues, exposing Animal Rights groups like HSUS, PETA, etc., challenging the “adopt don’t shop” mantra, links to our AMSC website, the AKC website, and various articles pertaining to the onslaught of imported rescue dogs and their impact on our dogs and our citizens. I typically post once a day. The average “reach” ranges from 2500 to 10K people daily depending on the content of the post. Extremely popular ones that are shared frequently can reach many more people! One particularly fun post of a Schnauzer acting afraid of a mouse was shared over 800 times and was seen by 96K people in a matter of days!

We recently “pinned” an exposé piece at the top of our page regarding the proliferation of “merle” Miniature Schnauzers with blue eyes and merle coloring. We called them out as nothing more than mixed breed dogs bred by unscrupulous breeders. We also pointed out that some breeders are fraudulently registering them with the AKC. That post alone under 2 separate posts reached more than 145K Facebook members!!!

I solicit pictures from our members and scour Facebook for additional photos. I normally will say “grabbing for AMSC Facebook page” so people realize they will be used. People are tickled when they see their dog on the page! To keep things simple, I do not give photo credit.

I find historical photos in old Terrier Type and Schnauzer Shorts magazines, and members send older pictures to me. We will post upcoming National and Regional specialties and events. I try to showcase all the sports our dogs can do, like Conformation, Barn Hunt, Agility, Scent Work, Earthdog, and even Dock Diving! But the most popular posts are usually the cute pet pictures! Our dogs just being great dogs!

I don’t let anyone post directly to the page, but any follower can post pictures to
any thread. Captioning posts creatively has a big impact on the reach. Sometimes we ask for interaction which really increases engagement. For instance, on a Friday, I might post a picture of a dog doing something fun and ask what the owner and their dog are doing that weekend. Ask them to post a picture of their dog in front of their Christmas tree or one of them playing. One Halloween we asked people to post a picture of their Miniature Schnauzer in a costume! Other successful threads have been asking the followers what they feed their dogs, or what they have done to help whiten beards. Engaging the followers makes them feel they are a part of something fun and educational!

As administrator, I try to keep a watchful eye for posts to our threads and hide pictures of Schnauzers that do not meet our Standard (like Whites, Parti’s, etc.) or hide overly negative comments. Over the years, I have had to ban a few troublemakers, animal rights activists, and anti-purebred fanatics. But overall, the page runs extremely smoothly considering the amount of activity we have on it.

KUBRIC, cont’d

Social Media

STARTING OFF ON THE RIGHT PAW

KATHY GREGORY, Delegate, Port Chester Obedience Training Club

A few weeks ago, my husband and I looked at our two Doberman Pinschers, littermates, and thought, “This is their seventh birthday already! They’re VETERANS! How did that happen?!” This was quickly followed by, “We need a succession plan!”

So, two weeks ago, we came home with a beautiful eight and a half week old red Doberman girl we named Rias. She is beautifully conformed, has great attitude, and smells like a “puppy!”

On the ride home, all the craziness of raising a puppy came rushing back to me as she threw up on me three times. Since she has not yet received her last inoculation, she has been confined to our property. Socialization so far has largely been confined to making sure the adult dogs are getting along with her. My boy loved her at first sight. My girl...not so much. After two weeks, my adult girl has pretty much prescribed the boundaries for Rias: no charging into my face with your big white ear posts, no biting my lips or ears and I will play with you at MY invitation, only. It’s funny, but I seem to remember she got this exact same treatment from her aunt when she came home as a puppy, herself. Who knew there is “dog karma?”

After years of training and molding mature dogs into fine competitors who anticipate your every move, beginning again with a peeing, pooping, mouthy puppy who doesn’t know how to sit quietly and has the attention span of a gnat, is quite a training and culture shock! Let me say at the outset that I am not a professional behaviorist. I am simply someone who has successfully trained dogs for sport competition for 46 years using only positive reinforcement and am now steeped into Scent Work competition. But, enough about me, back to the puppy. I am extremely careful not to upset the puppy tummy. Rias came home with a fat folder of instructions with the breeder’s recommendation on feeding. In Rias’ case, the food of choice is a commercial kibble, readily available at many dog food outlets. I use this kibble, one tiny piece at a time, to reward the behavior I want.

When we start training any dog for Scent Work, the primary behavior we want to reinforce is the “head down” position.

Rias at 12 weeks. The Scent Work World awaits her!
member Rias is 12 weeks old and that’s all I will do at this young age. I look for opportunities to reward my puppy when she has her head down and is sniffing in our yard or house. As always, timing is everything, and you want to be absolutely sure that you are quick to reward only the behavior you want with single little treats (emphasis on little)! This means you should have treats in your hand, ready for quick delivery. Be careful your quick movements do not frighten or startle your puppy! Train slowly and quietly. There is no need to add a verbal clue at this time. Scent Work puts the dog first and we try to interfere with natural canine behavior as little as possible. This translates to training ourselves to be calm and peaceful.

I have recently become very conscious of the settings and circumstances we establish to train our dogs. Do we consider their readiness to be trained at a given moment? If your dog is nervous, listless, distracted or not into training for any reason, at the particular time you have set, they will not learn well. Just because we have decided to train when we get home from work because it is most convenient for us does not mean that 5:30 pm twice a week is good for your dog. Before starting any training session, I recommend that you carefully observe your dogs to see if they are ready to be what we call in banking a “willing learner.” It’s the same with puppies. Keep your sessions really short and joyful. Two minutes, tops. Just long enough that you can see the developing brain is engaged. Take your clue from your puppy. If your puppy is like mine, a lot of their time will be spent in just exploring their new homes and experiencing the sun, bugs, sticks, and grass. This is their primary job at this time: explore and gain confidence. It helps if you have other adult dogs who can give the puppy clues about what to be afraid and cautious about, and what is no big deal. Once they have checked out their usual play area, then it’s time to start training.

In the coming weeks, as Rias is able to socialize more, I will be taking her to her first puppy classes so she gets used to being confident in different places with other dogs present. I can’t tell you how important this is in the scheme of things to develop a well-trained dog. The reliable Scent Work dog knows his/her job and will successfully accomplish it regardless of the distractions or setting. This ability comes from self confidence, confidence in their handler, and exposure to many experiences.

As time goes by I will address this journey again with additional training tips. Right now, Rias and I are just really enjoying looking at the world with new shiny, sparkly eyes!

SPEED DATING – AKC STYLE

DANIEL J. SMYTH, ESQUIRE, Delegate, Burlington County Kennel Club
Chair, Delegate Advocacy And Advancement Committee

Well it’s that time of year again when DAAC hosts the New Delegate Orientation. Realizing our material and system was getting repetitive, DAAC will introduce a new orientation format for Monday evening following the Delegates’ Caucus. We will be trying a new take on “speed dating.” There, will of course, be a few twists, but we hope it will be received in the spirit it is intended. Attendees will have a chance to “date” a.k.a. “meet with” individuals from all branches of the AKC.

The room set up will be engaging and more like a social event than a meeting. There will be four main stations, with one smaller area, “table top” for Perspectives. Each station will have a presenter. Travel-
Delegate Orientation

ing from station to station in groups, Delegates will have 10 to 12 minutes at each area, where they can engage with the speaker. While we welcome questions pertaining to the overall functioning of the American Kennel Club and the Delegate Body, we ask that you refrain from asking questions specific to your club unless they are relevant for all clubs. Our timer, yes, we will have one, will announce the start and end of each discussion. When the time is up, each group will be asked to move to the next station. Each presenter will have helpful information and handouts.

The presenters will be Gina DiNardo, Executive Secretary, who will present on the role of Staff and the Executive Committee of the AKC. Doug Lundgren, Executive Vice President of Sports and Events, will provide information on holding Performance Events. Dominic Carota, AKC Board Member, will discuss the Board, access, and some insight into what happens “behind those closed doors.” You might even ask him about the Museum and its progress! As Chair of the Coordinating Committee, I'll discuss the committees, our functions, charges and how you can access the committees. At the Perspectives area, Sylvia Thomas, our hard-working Editor, will be available to discuss the publication, how you can participate, and some tips on putting your thoughts into a published article.

Now, a word about the “social” part of the event! We plan to have a no-host bar nearby. You will be able to buy the beverage of your choice and make your hour with us even more enjoyable! There will also be some delightful snacks.

Adding to the ambiance of the hour, Dick Blair will be our Master of Ceremonies, who will tell you this Orientation will be very different from the morning quick review you received at your first meeting. Please consider attending. This is a terrific opportunity to network with fellow Delegates. We each have a lot to share and learn from each other. Look for an announcement of the room and exact time. Word to the wise, make your dinner reservations no earlier than 7:30pm.

Lastly, we invite the Board, Senior Staff, rhinoceros, and Committee chairs to stop by and say hello. While the “target audience” for the orientation is Delegates who are new, approved during the last 12 months, as well as Delegates who want to refresh their knowledge, all Delegates are welcome. You never know what you may hear or learn!

Please attend! Hope to see as many Delegates as possible on Monday, September 24, 6:00pm!

JUNIOR BEAGLER PROGRAM

BLAINE GROVE, Delegate, New England Beagle Club, Inc.

Blaine Grove, Delegate for New England Beagle Club, Inc. and Terry Gerhart, Director of the Junior Beagler Program, are proof positive of what can come out of a casual conversation between two friends with time on their hands while hunting! Seems Blaine had been imagining a Program for youngsters with Beagles for some time. The more Blaine and Terry spoke, the more obvious it became that they needed to start a Program. With the support of Terry’s family (wise man who knew the rest of the family would be involved one way or another), Blaine, Terry, and other Beaglers joined forces to begin the Northeast Regional Junior Beagler Program.

1. What is the Junior Beagler Program?

The Program is a joint effort supported by several clubs in the northeast including the Northeast Beagle Club, the Blaine Grove, Delegate for New England Beagle Club, Inc. and Terry Gerhart, Director of the Junior Beagler Program, are proof positive of what can come out of a casual conversation between two friends with time on their hands while hunting! Seems Blaine had been imagining a Program for youngsters with Beagles for some time. The more Blaine and Terry spoke, the more obvious it became that they needed to start a Program. With the support of Terry’s family (wise man who knew the rest of the family would be involved one way or another), Blaine, Terry, and other Beaglers joined forces to begin the Northeast Regional Junior Beagler Program.

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Juniors

The Gerhart girls, Bailey 4 years old (left) and Elizabeth 7(right) at Presque Isle Beagle Club LIC Trial
Gundog Federation, Pennsylvania Beagle Gundog Federation, New England Hunting Beagle Association, and Iroquois Beagle Gundog Association. The Program introduces children to working with and training dogs, participating in Trials, becoming a responsible club member, taking part in club activities, and understanding good sportsmanship. Each Junior in the Program completes a registration form that includes basic contact information, their acceptance of the Program rules, and dedication to participate in the “future of the Sport and the betterment of the breed.” Parental consent is required.

2. What is the purpose of the Program? Why was it started?

The intent was to introduce Beagle handling to youngsters in the Northeast region, to reward and encourage them, to provide incentives, and to set goals for achievement. While other programs have been rewarding for young handlers, the idea was to begin a Program that could be both effective and consistent.

3. Who is eligible for the Program?

The Program is intended to be inclusive, and to start kids at an early age. Thus, there are no minimum age restrictions. While the program is intended for youngsters between the ages of 7 and 17, one or two have started as young as 4 and 5 years of age.

4. How do the youngsters earn points in the Program?

There are two ways for kids to earn points:

- Participation in Club Activities
  The children earn points for their participation in club activities. These activities can be things such as helping in the kitchen during events, assisting at a work party, attending judging seminars, being a Marshall, handing out collars, or serving as an apprentice judge. Any worthy act to help a club in any way is accepted and encouraged. Due to the age differences within the program, each club activity is counted as one point.

- Participation in Trials
  All Junior Beaglers must register and run the same AKC registered Beagle for the Trial year; this dog is referred to as #1 Dog. The Junior Beagler does not have to own the Beagle. The Junior Beagler may handle one other AKC registered Beagle, #2 Dog, for additional award points. The Junior Beagler must be listed as the handler on the entry form for the day’s Trial. Points are awarded based on the placement of the Junior Beagler’s #1 Dog and #2 Dog in the Trial.

It is the Junior Beagler’s responsibility to submit Trial forms with placements and/or club activity event participation to the Director who maintains a log of the Junior Beagler’s points.

5. What is the Collar Program?

The Collar Program is a progressive achievement program that begins at age seven. Any points earned prior to age seven are saved and awarded when the child turns seven. As a progressive achievement pro-
Juniors

Trevor Hammerle filling feeders, Paskamansett Beagle Club

Laylah Hall (right) and Trinity Grube (left), receiving awards for Junior Beagler Program 2017-2018

Austin and Aydyn Santos receiving awards, hats and shirts for Junior Beagler Program

Cheyenne Colon with her green, orange and yellow collars

Great Two Days, Great People, Breakneck Beagle Club

program, there are requirements that must be completed at each level before a youngster can progress to the next level. Generally, only one collar can be earned in a year. The exception is a child who starts the program at a later age, for example, 11 years of age. That child is permitted to accelerate through the program by completing requirements that would have been completed at ages 7 through 10. While the two Programs, Junior Beagler and the Junior Beagler Collar, are separate, youngsters usually participate in both as the two complement each other.

6. How do the kids find out about the Program?

Information about the program is posted on every Federation website. Terry makes a conscious effort to go to every Club and asks for their support while giving an update and providing information about the program.

After all of this, you might be wondering if the Junior Beagler Program is working. It has taken time and effort to grow the program, but the results have been great. The Junior Beagler Program began in January 2016 with 17 kids. The following year, there were 32 kids involved. This year there are 50 and the youngest is 4 years old! The good news is kids and adults are enjoying the experience. Each Club has a representative who introduces the program and mentors the kids at the Club level. The representative helps the kids in different ways including helping them get an AKC registered dog to run and mentoring them on the Trial experience and hunting with Beagles. The kids are learning valuable lessons. They understand that they receive points based on their dog’s performance. In Terry’s words, “This isn’t a gimme program!” The Juniors know they can’t show up with an untrained dog and expect to do well. The majority of awards are donated by sponsors and the Clubs have funds to support the program. The looks on the faces of young Beaglers who earn collars (red through silver) or a vest or chaps tell it all. The kids are proud and happy; they are becoming Beaglers and some even learn how to cook!
Perspectives, and many other publications, have printed articles about the involvement of dogs with the military during various wars, but the emphasis here and mostly in the others is usually with their work as sentries, for detection, and as guards. Several monuments speak to their valuable service. However, one branch of the canine tree that has been largely ignored in this regard is the services provided by sled dogs during both world wars and in service before and since. Their service isn’t often known, even by their parent clubs. One of the largest deployments on record goes back to World War I (WWI), and has its roots in the Alaskan Gold Rush.

During that period, men from the “outside” flocked to Alaska and the Yukon Territory of Canada. Of necessity, most became acquainted with sled dogs in order to transport their supplies to their claims. The rush began in 1896 and lured over 100,000 prospectors to the two areas between 1896 and 1899. Although gold was still being found into the late 1890’s, the lure of new discoveries in California prompted an exodus to the more hospitable climate and better living conditions. During one week in August, 8,000 people left Dawson. The advent of WWI drained even more of the population, as loyal Canadians and adventurous Americans enlisted in the armies of Britain and France.

Two of these men, Captain Louis Moufflet and Lieutenant René Haas, ended up serving with the French army in the mountainous Vosges region, better known to most of us as the Alsace-Lorraine territory, the bitterly disputed area taken by Napoleon from Germany, and then ceded back to them after his defeat. Fighting along this front had been ferocious throughout the war, since the French were most unwilling to give it up again to Germany. Snowfall during the winter of 1914-1915 had been unusually heavy blocking attempts to re-supply the French soldiers on the ridges they held. The roads were blocked so that trucks couldn’t get through the drifts, which reached several meters in height. Attempts with horses and mules failed. Attempts to have men carry the material, also met with failure, because the men were really only able to carry enough for their own survival.

Moufflet and Haas, being very familiar with the use of sleds and dogs in the Yukon, approached their commanders and suggested that obtaining the necessary supplies and dogs might solve these issues during the upcoming campaign the following year, should the weather repeat itself. The French were familiar with dogs used in the mountains as trail or pack dogs or pulling carts, but the idea of using them for freight in the snow was novel. Undeterred, the two men came with documents and photos. They told of their own travel experiences with the Eskimos on the Arctic border, and that of the Klondike gold diggers. They also explained about the postal teams that crisscrossed the far north for thousands of kilometers, that nothing, not even severe storms, stopped.

In July, 1915, with winter approaching, General de Maud’Huy, commander of the 7th Army, issued secret orders to Moufflet and Haas. They were instructed to embark for North America to purchase more than 400 dogs, equipment, and food. Haas immediately sent a message to Scotty Allan, the most famous musher in Alaska, to ask for his support.

Like many men who ended up in Alaska, Allan wasn’t born there. He was from Scotland and had extensive experience working with both horses and dogs. He came to America as the escort for a Clydesdale stallion sold to a ranch in the Dakotas, and then followed the gold rush adventurers to Alaska where he got a job with a freighting company. Alaska’s climate didn’t lend itself to sports that most people from elsewhere were familiar with, so, over the years, men turned to something that they
had learned, sledding. Sled races became very popular, and especially important during those early years was the All-Alaska Sweepstakes which was run from Nome to Candle and back.

It followed the telegraph lines along the Bering Sea coast. Scotty Allan was the three-time winner of the Sweepstakes with his lead dog Baldy. Allan’s partner in racing and the freighting business was an authoress, Esther Bird-sall Darling, whose most well-known book Baldy of Nome, tells about Baldy’s entrance into Allan’s team and some of their adventures together on the trail. Interestingly, Allan and Baldy are purported to be the inspiration for the man and dog in Jack Lon-don’s White Fang. London spent time working in Alaska, and greatly admired Scotty Allan.

When Moufflet and Haas arrived in New York, they were unable to secure a ship for the return to France. At this time, the US was still neutral, and no one wanted to take sides. They decided to deal with the return later. Moufflet went on from Quebec City to find 300 dogs, while Haas went to Alaska charged with finding another 100. To help with this, he enlisted Scotty Allan’s help. They visited various Inuit villages, buying dogs and equipment. They traveled by boat from Nome to Vancouver, and then by train from Vancouver to Quebec City, through Canada.

Along the way, Haas had to foil several attempts by German spies to poison the dogs.

Once they met up in Quebec, the dogs were hidden in a hangar near a munitions factory. The testing explosions going off during the day help accustom the dogs to the noise. Time had flown by for the two men and their cargo. With winter fast approaching, they needed to get the 400 dogs, along with the seventy sleds, harnesses, five tons of food, supplies, and equipment for the trail to France. Securing a ship for transport was their next challenge. Fortunately, they did manage to find an old boat in Quebec that would take on the challenge of sailing the winter Atlantic and braving the German U-boats. This ship was the last one to leave Quebec City in the winter of 1915. They reached Le Havre, France on Dec 5, 1915 where their next task would be a crash course, teaching French mushers how to use the dogs and equipment.

The French code name for this operation was
Poilus d’Alaska, or Hairy from Alaska. Daniel Duhand has written a book in French called La Veritable Histoire des Poilus d’Alaska and a movie in French was released some years back called Nome de code: Poilus d’Alaska. On the hundredth anniversary of their arrival on French shores in 1915, the dogs and soldiers were commemorated by the dedication of a statue, sponsored by the Nanook canine club of Bischwiller, an Alsatian sled dog association and the Serret Museum of St. Amarin near Alsace.

When the fighting resumed in the following year, the sled teams proved invaluable in bringing supplies to the French forces despite the snowy passes and roads. They brought reinforcements, food, winter clothing, charcoal, and ammunition, and carried wounded men back to field hospitals.

The teams were composed of many different breeds, from mixes to Malamutes and Siberians, so while they were not flat-out speed dogs, as we see in races today, they were quite capable as freighting dogs with heavy loads. The best distance covered was 120 km (almost 75 miles) with 300 kilos (about 660 lbs.) in a day by a 9-dog team. Included in the load were 3 men with arms and ammunition. In one night, 30 kilos of telephone cable were laid to restore the connection to a French position which was isolated by the Germans. Once communications were established, commanders were able to direct the encircled forces on how to rejoin the French lines.

Many of the dogs and soldiers were decorated for their service. At least half of the dogs were killed during the fighting, and many were kept by their handlers. Their descendants are still seen in the area today.

Part II will continue discussing sled dogs serving in war time.

A NON-SCENT SEEK AND FIND
Here’s a little quiz to see who’s reading the issue.

1. When did the AKC Junior Ambassador Program launch?
2. On what page is the word rhinoceros hidden?

The first three Delegates to contact Assistant Editor, Monica Henderson Stoner, tsent@ix.netcom.com, with the correct answers will receive a Panera gift card.
BOARD & DELEGATE MEETINGS
2018

Revised at the January 8 & 9, 2018 Board Meeting

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

January
8      Board Meeting
9      Board Meeting

February
8      Board Meeting
9      Board Meeting

March
12     Delegate Committee Meeting
13     Delegate Meeting

April
9      Board Meeting
10     Board Meeting

May
7      Board Meeting
8      Board Meeting

June
11     Delegate Committee Meeting
12     Delegate Meeting

July
9      Board Meeting
10     Board Meeting

August
13     Board Meeting
14     Board Meeting

September
24     Delegate Committee Meeting
25     Delegate Meeting

October
8      Board Meeting
9      Board Meeting

November
12     Board Meeting
13     Board Meeting

December
13     Delegate Committee Meeting
14     Delegate Meeting

FEBRUARY 2018

MARCH 2018

APRIL 2018

MAY 2018

JUNE 2018

JULY 2018

AUGUST 2018

SEPTEMBER 2018

OCTOBER 2018

NOVEMBER 2018

DECEMBER 2018
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