

## Vice President's 2020 Report of the Committee Chairs

I am calling this the 'The lost Year' report.

Lost because we should have all been in Olympia, Washington with our Sussex , hosted by The Pacific Northwest Club and Patrica Shaw.

Lost because of those of us who wake up early because we have an 8 AM ring side, right after the National Anthem, knowing that Sporting Group is last that day and somehow the day flies right by. We haven't had that since the end of February.

Lucky, however, because while sequestered we had the luxury and pleasure of the company of our Sussex!

Thank you to all the committee chairs who sent in their respective reports.

The Breeder Referral Report from Jenni Toebben is that she had approximately 48 people requesting information about Sussex Spaniels. This number was higher than last year and May and June were busiest due to people being at home. Not many people followed up on their initial inquiry.

The Judges Selection Committee from Patricia Petraglia is that no activity as we have already voted on judges for several years ahead.

The Field Committee from Patricia Petraglia reports no activity due to the Covid pandemic and also issues with high colonies of neurotoxins in water around the country making it unsafe for dogs to swim.

The SSCA Store Report from Toni McCord is that we made \$100. this year. At this time the store only has a few cookbooks and Sussex pins for sale. We are looking to expand the stores capabilities in the near future.

The Membership Committee from Kitty Cahoon is that it was a very successful year thanks to Karen Silensky's personal outreach. We have inducted at least 6 new members and 3 past members after lapses in their membership.

Kitty Cahoon put together the archive worthy 2020 canceled National t shirts.  
Kitty Cahoon published and mailed out the 2020 Membership Directory.

The Website Committee from Lisa Falconer is that the site is up and ready to be expanded. We will be looking into hiring a professional website designer to continue with work that has been started.

The Awards Committee from Rosemary Cushman is that the awards committee was able to secure all necessary materials and information needed. She thanks everyone for their help.

The Public Education Committee from Marcia Deugan is that the Meet the Breed in January was a great success with Karen Cottingham, Georgia Purdue, Kim Kesselring and Linda Reda. Chase had a wonderful time and proved to be a great ambassador for the breed. All Meet the Breeds since have been cancelled and we are hoping for them to start up again sooner than later.

The AKC Gazette Columns from Maria Deugan is that in January there is a new Preservation Breeder designation. This is of course important for a breed like ours.

The April column was dedicated to the memory and all of the accomplishments of Debbie Miller. She was on the Judges Education committee and was a founding member of the Heart of Ohio Sussex Spaniel Club. She was a long time, prolific breeder leaving an indelible mark on the well being of the Sussex Breed! She is truly missed!

The July column is about the amazing article written by Bobby Lewis. One Hundred years of pedigree discovery! This article is included in this report in its entirety.

Marci Deugan wrote an article for the October issue about care for the Sussex Spaniels in summer especially. This is included in this report. In this article is how this pandemic is affecting being able to introduce young Sussex puppies to the ring. How important it is to start early and make it fun for them to want to continue.

The Judges Education Committee from Marcia Deugan is that after the huge turnout to the Judges Education last December. About 30 Judges attended the SSCA Judges Seminar. It was a great success to have so many interested in our breed. Due to the pandemic there have been none this year.

The SSCA did however participate in the AKC K-9 College Judges education series. This allowing for future judges to watch and learn a very good Sussex Spaniel judging webinar.

The Health Report Committee from Marcia Deugan is that even though we are doing better in the past few years, that only 34 Sussex puppies were registered this last year.

We are trying to get enacted an additional microchip protocol to all Sussex with a designation for Preservation Breed. This is important if a Sussex gets lost or sheltered or stolen or found in a vet's care that the chip would indicate not to neuter an intact dog or put it to sleep. If the owner cannot be found to contact the breed club.

Marcia encourages everyone to visit the AKC website to view the video given to the Delegates. This was an excellent presentation by Doug Johnson and Bill Shelton (Corgis). They point out the importance of working together to ensure that our pure bred breeds continue in light of the fact that there is the AR movement that is working against us. More than ever we need to stand together.

The Delegates Report from Bobby Lewis is eight pages and is included in this report in its entirety.

All full copies submitted are included in this report.

In closing, we hope that you are all doing well and keeping safe! We hope that next year will bring us all together once again. The Sussex National in 2021 will be in September in Salisbury, Md. And in 2022 will be in Tucson, AZ.



**Sussex Spaniel Club of America  
Breeder Referral Report 2020**

Since October of 2019 (since I last submitted a report) I have had requests from approximately 48 people for information about Sussex Spaniels. The number of requests has really increased with more people staying at home. I think May and June were my busiest months since I took over this position.

Most people contact me via email, although I occasionally receive a phone call for the first contact. Some people have also written on the SSCA Facebook page, and I ask them to email me and give them my email. I send them a copy of the Breeder List, as well as an information sheet about Sussex. When I send the information, I usually mention that there are not many Sussex Spaniel available, and relay the 50+ dogs registered in 2019 number to them. If I am aware of any recent litters, I do mention that also.

During email conversations, I encourage people to let me know how their search is going. I rarely hear back from people who have requested information. One request was for Canadian breeders. I could not find any for this person.

It is fun to try and help people in their search for a Sussex, and easy to understand why someone would want one of our quirky brown dogs.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Jenni Toebben

402.681.8966

[Jenni.toebben@bhhsamb.com](mailto:Jenni.toebben@bhhsamb.com)

Submitted 8/30/2020

**From:** Patricia Petraglia px3@msn.com  
**Subject:** RE: Report of the Committees  
**Date:** August 27, 2020 at 9:49 AM  
**To:** Lee S Silensky silensky@comcast.net



Hi Lee,

We are hanging in hoping this COVID nightmare will lessen at some point.

I am having issues retrieving old templates from my computer right now, so I am just going to summarize for you here: 1. Judges Selection Committee – No activity as results were submitted several years ahead with last voting. 2. Field Committee – No activity due to COVID as well as to safety of water due to high colonies of neurotoxins in water around country making it unsafe to swim dogs.

Stay safe and healthy and hope for a National again at some point.

Best,  
Patricia

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

**From:** [Lee S Silensky](#)  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 23, 2020 4:04 PM  
**To:** [Patricia](#)  
**Subject:** Report of the Committees

Hi Patricia,

First and foremost I hope that you and your family and your pups are all safe and doing well during this incredible time that we are all going through!

I am writing because I am still going to put together a Report of the Committees this year even though we will not have our National Specialty.

If you could put together what you have for the Field Committee and the Judges Selection Committee I would appreciate your reports.

Thanks and stay well and safe!

Lee Silensky

**From:** kitty cahoon kittycahoon@gmail.com  
**Subject:** SSCA Store Report  
**Date:** September 8, 2020 at 7:20 PM  
**To:** Lee S Silensky silensky@comcast.net

---

The store has done a total of \$100 this year which was sent to Sue Caniff for deposit.  
The store has only a few cookbooks and Sussex pins for sale at this time.

Toni McCord  
By Kitty Cahoon

From: kitty cahoon kittycahoon@gmail.com  
Subject: Membership Committee Report  
Date: Sep 8, 2020 at 7:58:16 PM  
To: Lee S Silensky silensky@comcast.net

---

The committee has had a very successful year thanks to Karen Silensky and her personal outreach to the club members. We have inducted at least 6 new members and had 3 past members rejoin after lapses in their membership.

We also helped with the 2021 canceled National tshirt.

Published and mailed the 2020 Membership directory with few mistakes.

Will do better next year.

Kitty Cahoon

**From:** Lisa Falconer lisacurt@4onthego.net

**Subject:** Website

**Date:** August 31, 2020 at 1:33 PM

**To:** Marcia Deugan ziyadahreg@aol.com, Lee Silensky Silensky@comcast.net, Kim Kesselring gotbeagles@gmail.com, Sue Caniff azsussex@yahoo.com

LF

---

Good Afternoon SSCA Board of Directors,

Please forward to the SSCA Board of Directors I am missing.

After a great deal of thought, I regret to share with the SSCA Board of Directors that I am resigning as the SSCA Website Volunteer. Creating a website is a time intensive endeavor which I was happy to create for the Club. However, the expectations for content and design have blossomed beyond my skill level and available free time.


My recommendation is that the Club hire a professional website designer to create a SSCA Website the membership deserves. WIX, our website host has professional designers able to pick up where I left off for a fee. Of course I am happy to help you transition to a designer of your choice and provide documents, photos and any other information should you not use the WIX Format.

Being apart of the SSCA has been a pleasure and one I hope continues as we breed and show our 2 Sussex Spaniels. It is exciting to know there is growing interest in using the website as a means of education and communication.

My best to you.  
Warm Regards, Lisa Falconer

Wix Contact: <https://support.wix.com/en/article/contacting-wix-by-phone-3491545>



**From:** sussexspaniel04@aol.com   
**Subject:** 2019 SSCA awards committee report  
**Date:** September 17, 2020 at 12:50 PM  
**To:** Lee S Silensky silensky@comcast.net

---



### Awards committee report-2019

The members of the awards committee were able to secure all necessary materials and information needed for the 2018 SSCA Awards Banquet held in conjunction with the 2019 National Specialty. Thanks to everyone for their help.

Rosemary Cushman, Chair



From: **Marcia Deugan** ziyadahreg@aol.com  
Subject: PEC Report  
Date: September 7, 2020 at 1:43 PM  
To: silensky@comcast.net



---

## 2020 Public Education Committee Report

The only Public Education event in 2020, due to the Covid pandemic, was the Meet The Breeds held in Jan. Karen Cottingham, Georgia Perdue, Kim Kesselring, & Linda Reda did a wonderful job and I understand that Chase had the time of his life! What a great ambassador for the breed!

The Meet The Breeds scheduled for Nashville, Philadelphia, and Orlando were canceled.

We have high hopes that 2021 will give our breed further opportunities for Public Education, but with the close interaction of people in Meet The Breed situations, it is hard to say.

Respectfully submitted,  
Marcia Deugan  
Chair PEC

From: **Marcia Deugan** ziyadahreg@aol.com  
Subject: 2020 AKC Gazette Column report  
Date: September 7, 2020 at 2:29 PM  
To: silensky@comcast.net

MD

## AKC GAZETTE COLUMNS

The Gazette columns for 2020 appear in the AKC online Gazette.

The Jan. column was one that praised the new Preservation Breeder designation.

The April column was dedicated to the memory of Debbi Miller.

The July column was a real gem! You can even see the photos in the online Gazette. It is by Bobby Lewis and I think everyone should read and copy it!

The Oct. column is a simple one about the up coming Nationals and the breed.

Respectfully submitted,  
Marcia Deugan  
SSCA Gazette Columnist

**From:** Marcia Deugan ziyadahreg@aol.com  
**Subject:** Gazette Column April 2020  
**Date:** September 7, 2020 at 2:23 PM  
**To:** silensky@comcast.net



---

## GAZETTE ARTICLE APRIL 2020

The Sussex Spaniel world has lost a long time, prolific breeder. Debbi Miller, Remedi Sussex Spaniels, died after a long illness. She left not only her beautiful Sussex Spaniels, but her husband, Tom, and family and many friends. Debbi was an advocate of raw feeding and natural remedies, a long time member of the SSCA, was on the Judges Education committee and was a founding member of the Heart of Ohio Sussex Spaniel Club. She is and will always be sorely missed.

The AKC / Royal Canin show in Orlando just gets bigger and better every year. The Meet The Breed booths are more professional and elaborate every year. Although the Sussex booth didn't win a ribbon this year, we got lots of compliments on it . The real show stopper was the puppy pen with real live 4 and almost 6 month old puppies. They were sweet gentle puppies and the children loved being able to pet (and hold if they sat on the floor) them. It was an especially good experience for the many autistic and Down syndrome kids that were there. It brought tears to my eyes to see the children start off so tentative and then end up laughing and playing with them.

I want to mention two other booths that caught my eye (and my quirky sense of humor. The Greyhound booth had an entire couch sectional with several dogs on it and a sign that said "45 mph Couch Potatoes" and the Siberian Husky booth had an entire table of combed out Sib hair with a sign that said "Do Siberian Huskys Shed?"

It was wonderful to have about 30 judges attend the SSCA Judges Seminar there. I am very encouraged that so many judges actually care about learning to judge the breed. They asked good questions and listened intently to the answers. None of them could believe that there were only 34 Sussex born in the US in 2018 . Hopefully, the numbers will be up for this past year, although I know of several litters that either all the pups were lost or all but one or two. Sussex are such a wonderful breed – we just keep trying. We repeated again and again that all Sussex are valuable to the breed, that females, while not quite as showy, are the gold of the breed.

Our next National Specialty will be in Olympia, WA in Sept. of 2020.

Marcia Deugan – [ZIYADAHreg@aol.com](mailto:ZIYADAHreg@aol.com)

Reply

Reply All

Forward



**From:** Marcia Deugan ziyadahreg@aol.com  
**Subject:** AKC Gazette Column for July 2020  
**Date:** September 7, 2020 at 2:14 PM  
**To:** silensky@comcast.net, Marcia Deugan ziyadahreg@aol.com



#### AKC Gazette Column for July 2020

I would like to thank our guest columnist, John Robert Lewis, Jr., for this excellent column. Bobby has been involved in the Sussex Spaniel breed for almost as long as I have and has not only bred and shown wonderful Sussex, but written a book on Sussex and done years of extensive pedigree research. He started in Sussex when he was so young that his father had to drive him to dog shows as he was too young to get a drivers license! He has introduced many many new people to the breed over the years and the breed owes him a debt of gratitude. This column is a gem that all fanciers should keep and treasure.

It would be a rare occurrence in any breed to have a significant pedigree discovery about a dog born more than a hundred years ago come to light. Still rarer would be that such a discovery involved a dog not registered with any kennel club. I was fortunate to have such a revelation on a summer's day last year.

I have been a breeder of Sussex Spaniels for forty-eight years, and during those years, I have always had a fascination with pedigrees. While pedigrees of Sussex are my specific passion, I also enjoy delving into the histories of other rare breeds. What has struck me about Sussex Spaniels is the degree of completeness in the breeding record. All breeds have those "pedigree unknown" dogs that figure in their ancestries. Sussex Spaniels are no exception, but I do believe that there are significantly fewer of these dogs in the Sussex records than most any other breed.

The majority of dogs of unknown pedigree in Sussex Spaniel lineage are found during a ten-year period after World War I. The Great War had a devastating effect on many breeds, but the war was particularly disastrous to Sussex. During the 1800's, and the first decade of the Twentieth Century, individual registrations for the breed rarely surpassed the teens in number in the United Kingdom. While many breeds had supporters in the United States and elsewhere, the Sussex had none. From 1906 until 1919, J. E. Kerr at Harviestoun Castle near Tillicoultry, Scotland, and Campbell Newington at Oakover, Ticehurst, Sussex, England, were the breed's only supporters. Just as Joy Freer had saved the Sussex Spaniel from extinction during World War II, these two men had preserved the breed during the First World War, and the decade preceding it.

Something went awry after the war. In comparing photographs of Sussex Spaniels prior to 1914 to those Sussex of the 1920's, the dogs bore little resemblance. The long, low, and massively built pre-war Sussex Spaniels disappeared. In their place sprung up dogs much higher on leg, much squarer in length, and lighter in build. What had happened? How could type had shifted so quickly in such a rare breed? I had suspected the reason for many years, but had no conclusive proof until that summer's day last year.

In 1978, I had the honor of staying with Jack and Joy Freer at their Old Vicarage Farm in Harleston, Metfield, England. During the few days I spent with Joy, I tried to gather as much knowledge as I could. In the Sussex world, no one was held in higher esteem than she was. I did ask her why the dramatic change in breed type occurred after the war. She replied that the owners after the war simply decided that the best way to revive interest in the breed was to improve its hunting qualities. A decision was made to breed them up on leg. I suppose I should have asked how such a dramatic shift in type had been accomplished in so few years, but I didn't.

During the same visit to the Old Vicarage, I remember that Joy went to an old cabinet, rummaged around a bit, and brought out several old handwritten pedigrees. These pedigrees were not in her handwriting, and I never inquired who had set them to paper. I dutifully copied the information down on a college exam booklet that I had with me. At the time, I did not realize how significant the information was, since this was long before the days of the internet, and my pedigree research was just beginning. What these pedigrees contained was the lineage of several of unregistered dogs of the time. This information was not available from any other source. Through these pedigrees, several different lines could be traced unbroken into the past. I still have those notes today. These pages along with all the hand-written letters that Joy Freer sent me are among my most treasured possessions.

One of Joy's old pedigrees set forth the lineage of a dog named Punch Of Heanton. All present-day Sussex trace back to Punch through two of his offspring - Paxhill Buckle and Broadhurst Brora. He was the maternal grandsire of Joy Freer's foundation Sussex CH. Brosse. The pedigree listed Shot and Ruby as Punch's sire and dam. Not being very adept at reading someone else's cursive handwriting, especially in dim light as electricity had not yet come to the Old Vicarage, I made a scrivener's error when copying down the name of Shot's sire and dam. My notes have the sire as "Willington Tony" and the sire as "Willington Floss." Over the years I had often wondered why Shot, being unregistered and of single name, would have two parents with an apparent kennel name. From time to time, I researched "Willington" in hopes of making a connection, but no information surfaced.

As with Shot's parents, I also had a problem deciphering Ruby's parentage. Her dam was clearly a bitch named Topsy. From what I could make out, her sire was a dog named "Denne Orwith." At the time I wrote the information down, I was positive that "Denne" was correct, but I was so unsure of the name "Orwith," that I wrote a small question mark directly above the entry.

Again, I was struck that Ruby had a sire with an apparent kennel name. Early internet searches turned up nothing of consequence for "Denne." Several years ago, however, relevant information finally surfaced. As it turned out, Mr. Charles Cyril St. Leonard (Bethune) Eversfield lived at Denne Park, Horsham, England, and had a large kennel of English Spring Spaniels. His breeding program was quite well known from the 1890's through to the beginning of the war, as he was very active in field trialing his Springers. Unfortunately, Mr. Eversfield committed suicide on December 28, 1914, and the Denne kennel came to an end. I still have not been able to determine whether I correctly wrote down the name "Orwith." That mystery is solvable, however, as Mr. Eversfield kept his own Stud Book which is now in the possession of the Southern English Springer Spaniel Society. It should be relatively simple to determine whether he ever bred a dog named "Orwith." If none with that name appears in the Denne Studbook, then I made another scrivener's error. In any case, any dog carrying the Denne name was an English Springer Spaniel, and consequently, an English Springer Spaniel was the sire of Ruby.

Last summer's revelation started with another internet search for "Denne." A website listing English Springer Spaniel kennels of the past turned up. In scrolling down the list of names, Denne appeared. Further down, I saw the kennel name Withington. I immediately made the connection. In writing down the pedigree information 41 years earlier, I had mistakenly read "Willington" for "Withington." Mr. J. Hulme of Lower Withington, Chelford, England, bred both English Springer Spaniels and Labrador Retrievers under the Withington prefix from the 1910's through to the 1930's. Further internet searches turned up specific information on Withington Floss, the dam of Shot. Floss was by Denne Druid (Kennel Club Stud Book number 0395P), out of a bitch named Biddy. Druid was a liver and white English Springer Spaniel, born on January 9, 1906. Druid's sire was the famous Dual Champion Velox Powder, and his dam was the equally famous FT. CH. Cannonite Powder, both being liver and white. I am hoping that once I can access The Kennel Club's records, information about Withington Tony will come to light.


With the name correction, my suspicions as to how Sussex type could have changed so radically in so short a time frame was confirmed. It is most likely that the other unregistered dogs that appear in post war Sussex pedigrees were some breed of spaniel, and most probably English Spring Spaniels. One thing is for certain - these unregistered dogs were not Sussex.

Starting in the same time period, the Field Spaniel that had so closely resembled the Sussex in outline prior to World War I regrettably underwent a complete breed type change through repeated documented outcrosses to the English Springer Spaniel. In the Sussex breed, outcrosses stopped around the mid 1920's. The same was not true for the Field Spaniel.

The damage caused by the Springer outcrosses had lasting consequences for the Sussex Spaniel. It would take the breed nearly seventy years to recover. Even though breeders for decades selected against the long, low and massive characteristics which are the hallmark of the Sussex Spaniel, the genes that created the original breed characteristics survived. Restoration of the breed to its original type has been so successful in recent years that many of today's Sussex would be recognizable as such if transported back in time to the late 1890's.

© 2020 John Robert Lewis, Jr.



From: Marcia Deugan ziyadahreg@aol.com   
Subject: Fwd: Sussex Spaniel column due July 2020  
Date: September 7, 2020 at 2:01 PM  
To: kaskerm@gmail.com, silensky@comcast.net



-----Original Message-----

From: Marcia Deugan <ziyadahreg@aol.com>  
To: arliss.paddock@akc.org <arliss.paddock@akc.org>  
Sent: Sat, Jul 4, 2020 10:04 pm  
Subject: Sussex Spaniel column due July 2020

## GAZETTE ARTICLE DUE JULY 2020

I am sure there will be many Covid 19 articles written now, but suffice it to say while this is being written, there are no dog shows. AKC has been wonderful trying to compensate for this with various virtual activities, but it just isn't the same. Hopefully by the time you read this, thing will be much better and shows will be going on again.

Sussex hair – living in FL , my Sussex shed all the time. This summer especially , there seems to be more hair being shed than usual. Really hot this year. I have had to resort to actually throwing it away as my usual method of just throwing it out in the yard for the birds to make fuzzy nests isn't working. I see on social media all the photos of Sussex that have been shaved down and have to say that a well combed out Sussex is just as or more comfortable in hot weather. I only use clippers on one old spayed female as she has that nasty "spay coat". Hair provides insulation from the heat / sun. Just bathe and groom (and a wading pool!) and a Sussex will be more comfortable.

I am a bit worried about not having had the chance show my young puppies. I have found, thru the years, that what works best for me is to get each puppy out to a show at 6 months, if possible. The people, other dogs, crowded conditions, noise , mats, different ramp, etc. is so important at this young age. My puppies are entered for practice and fun. A show dog can be greatly affected by his (or her) first ring experience and I always tell the judge if it is a puppies first or second show. I don't care how they place, I just want them to have a good experience and to see that dog shows are fun!

If a puppy is out for 2 or 3 shows and then kept home to grow for a bit, if they have had a good experience then they love going back to shows when they are a bit older – they remember! A note here, some judges are better with puppies than others – do your research.

So sad that Meet The Breeds events have had to be put on hold – for good reason as there are few times you are closer to a bunch of strangers than at a MTB – but sad nonetheless.

No National for Sussex this year, but 2021 will be in Sept. in Salisbury, MD. And 2022 will be in Tucson, AZ.

Can't wait!

Marcia Deugan ZIYADAHreg@aol.com  
239-947-2426

From: **Marcia Deugan** ziyadahreg@aol.com  
Subject: JEC report  
Date: September 7, 2020 at 1:25 PM  
To: silensky@comcast.net



## 2020 JUDGES EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT

After the huge Judges Education presentation last Dec., I am sad to say we have not had the opportunity to hold any more judges seminars because of the Covid pandemic.

It is fortunate that the SSCA participated in the AKC K-9 College judges education series so that future judges (and anyone so inclined) can watch a very good Sussex Spaniel judging webinar. I believe the cost is \$50 , although they did run a special this summer of the webinars being half price.

Hopefully things will be back to normal very soon.

We lost one of our committee members late last year, Debbi Miller, and she is truly missed.

Respectfully submitted,  
Marcia Deugan  
Chair JEC



From: **Marcia Deugan** ziyadahreg@aol.com  
Subject: AKC Gazette Column for Jan 2020  
Date: September 7, 2020 at 2:32 PM  
To: silensky@comcast.net



The Sussex Spaniel is a wonderful , rare, low entry , golden liver breed that has always and still does need our club and our breeders to continue to thrive. We love and treasure our dogs. We breed with care.

The Sussex Spaniel is doing better, in the last few years , than it ever has before. But still, we had only 34 puppies registered last year. Now the breeders of Sussex Spaniels and other breeds have a name. A good name. Possibly a great name. We are Preservation Breeders. We are dedicated to preserving and promoting our breed or breeds. But for now let us concentrate on the Sussex.

I encourage everyone to go to the AKC website and watch the video presentation given to the Delegates at a recent meeting. It was an excellent presentation done by Doug Johnson and Bill Shelton (Corgis). They explained how the AR movement has publicised their movement of not breeding and pure bred elimination. They pointed out that we must do our own publicity on the preservation front and why we need to stop pointing a finger at breeders that have more than one litter a year and who have multiple dogs, even multiple breeds. They pointed out how many litters each of them have had in the last year. How much they have helped their chosen breeds and how much the fancy has lost due to the death of a top breeder of Dandie Dinmonts. In a low numbered breed such as Dandies or Sussex, loss of one successful breeder can make a terrible difference in the breed.

After you watch that video , please start thinking about this: I am suggesting an additional microchip protocol . My suggestion is that for, especially, low volume breeds and vulnerable breeds – both designations for Sussex – the AKC Reunite make a small addition. Can we not add a certain combination of letters to all our new microchip numbers? Perhaps “PB” for Preservation Breed?  
SAVING THE SUSSEX

If a dog with a PB in it's registered microchip is scanned in a lost or shelter or Vet situation we could publicise and stress that a dog with this designation that is intact should never be neutered or put to sleep without proof that the person presenting the dog is the actual owner. If the owner cannot be found could the breed club then be called? So many pure bred dogs have been stolen (in one way or another) and destroyed or neutered in the last few years.

## Delegate's Report 2020

### December 2019 Meeting

The December 2019 meeting of the AKC Delegates was held on December 13, 2019, in Orlando, Florida. In attendance at this meeting were 312 delegates.

The Executive Secretary read the report of the Nominating Committee on its selectees for the Board of Directors positions. In addition to the Committee's four selectees, two additional candidates acquired the necessary signatures of delegates. The candidates gave a three-minute introduction of themselves.

Next President Sprung gave his report. In his comments, President Sprung noted that the AKC National Championship show had over 11,000 entries. This made the show the largest dog event ever held in the United States. 2019 litter registrations increased for the fifth consecutive year, and individual registrations increased for the sixth consecutive year. Mr. Sprung announced that the AKC will offer a free litter registration to the winner of Best Bred-by at every All Breed and Group show and each Parent Club's national specialty show. At the end of his comments the President introduced Asley Jacot, Director of Education.

Ms. Jacot outlined two educational outreach initiatives. The first program is AKC Math Agility. This educational piece is a mobile app that was launched on December 9, 2019. Its aim is children five to eight and features math facts in addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. It introduces children to up to 60 breeds and the sport of agility. Its purpose is to be designed as an educational tool that will introduce a new audience to purebred dogs and the sport of purebred dogs. The second initiative is the AKC PupPal program. The AKC PupPal program provides children in need of uplifting with a photo of and a letter from a canine friend. Any child is eligible to receive a note, including children who are struggling with illness, those who have lost a parent or a sibling, children who are missing a deployed parent, or who otherwise are struggling through a difficult time. The Education Department seeks photos of dogs and information about them from their owners. The AKC utilizes that information as well as information provided by the child's parent to match children with dogs that share similar interests and personality traits. The Education Department then writes the letter and mail it to the child on behalf of the dog.

After the President's report, Joe Baffuto gave the AKC financial report for the AKC.

Following the financial report, the delegates voted on two amendments to the various Rules. The first vote was on Rules Applying to Dog Shows, Chapter 3, Section 22, Dog Show Classifications, which would allow dogs registered with an acceptable foreign or domestic registration to participate in Miscellaneous, making the language applying to registration



numbers consistent with Chapter 11, Section 1. The amendment was proposed by AKC staff with support from the Dog Show Rules and the Parent Club Committees and brought forward with approval from the AKC Board of Directors. This amendment passed with the required two-thirds majority. Chapter 3, Section 22 now reads:

#### **CHAPTER 3, SECTION 22.**

The Miscellaneous Class shall be for purebred dogs of such breeds as may be designated by the AKC® Board of Directors. No dog shall be eligible to exhibit in the Miscellaneous Class unless the owner 17 has been granted an AKC registration number or is individually registered with an acceptable foreign or domestic registration organization in accordance with the AKC FSS Program. Dogs not individually registered with the American Kennel Club may be shown in accordance with Chapter 11, Section 1 of this book.

The regular Miscellaneous Classes for each breed shall be Puppy, Bred-by Exhibitor and Open, with the same eligibility requirements in Sections 4, 8 and 10 of the Chapter respectively. These classes shall be divided by sex. All class winners within a breed shall compete for Best of Breed and Best of Opposite Sex to Best of Breed.

Each of the Miscellaneous Class Best of Breed winners shall be eligible to compete for Best in Miscellaneous Class. All entries for Best in Miscellaneous Class shall be made after judging of the individual Miscellaneous breed classes and no entry fee shall be charged. In the event that the owner of a dog designated Best of Breed shall not exhibit the dog in the Best of Miscellaneous Class Competition, no other dog of the same breed shall be allowed to compete. There shall be no further competition for dogs entered in the Miscellaneous Class.

*Winners of the Best of Breed in each of the individual Miscellaneous breeds will be awarded points towards the Certificate of Merit (CM) title based on the total number of dogs competing. Best of Opposite Sex to Best of Breed in each of the individual Miscellaneous breeds will be awarded points towards the Certificate of Merit (CM) title based on the total number of dogs of its sex in competition. The winner of the Best in Miscellaneous Class will be awarded points towards a Certificate of Merit based upon the total number of dogs that competed in all of the Miscellaneous Class breeds.*

*Upon completion of the CM title a dog may continue to compete in the Miscellaneous Class so long as they are of an eligible breed.*

*The CM suffix title is an introductory title to AKC conformation events and will be superseded by the CH title when earned. The Certificate of Merit requires 15 points awarded in accordance with the following point structure:*

<i>Dogs Competing</i>	<i>Points</i>
2	1
4	2
8	3
12	4
16	5

*The CM title initials will be followed by a numeric designation indicating the quantity of times the dog has met the requirements of the CM title as defined above, e.g., 30 CM points = CM2.*

The ribbon shall conform to Chapter 5, Section 2 of these rules and shall be the following colors:

- First Prize – Rose
- Second Prize – Brown
- Third Prize - Light Green
- Fourth Prize – Gray
- Best of Breed – Orange
- Best of Opposite – Lavender
- Best in Miscellaneous - Pink and Green

*At present, the Miscellaneous Class is open to the following breeds:*

Biewer Terrier

Bracco Italiano

Dutch Shepherd  
Lancashire Heeler  
Mudi  
Norrbottenspets  
Peruvian Inca Orchid  
Portuguese Podengo  
Russian Toy  
Teddy Roosevelt Terrier

The second vote was on the Rules and Standard Procedure for Pointing Breeds, Chapter 14, Section 20, which allows for a National Walking Gun Dog Championship for Weimaraners. The amendment was proposed by the Weimaraner Club of America and brought forward with the approval of the AKC Board of Directors. Two-thirds of the delegates voted in favor, and the amendment was passed. The amended section which is now Section 18 reads:

**Section 18.**

A National Championship Stake for Weimaraners may be held not more than once in any calendar year, and shall be for dogs over six (6) months of age, which by reason of wins previously made qualify under regulations submitted by the Parent Club for the breed and approved by the Board of Directors of The American Kennel Club. The stake shall be held by the Parent Club which shall file an application for permission to run it under procedures approved in advance by The American Kennel Club. Dogs placing in this stake shall be credited with championship points in accord with the schedule for Field Championships, and, if registered in The 32 American Kennel Club Stud Book, shall be entitled to be designated "National Weimaraner Field Champion of 20\_\_."

**March 2020 Meeting**

The March meeting of the AKC Delegates was held on March 10, 2020, in Newark, New Jersey. There were 281 delegates in attendance.

In his report, President Sprung noted that litter and individual registrations for 2019 increased over 2018 figures. Litters registrations increased 3% to over 258,000 and individual dog



registrations increased 1% to over 588,000 in 2019. The number of unique breeders grew by 5%. Aggregate event entries were up more than 670,000, ending the year at over 3,310,000. Public relations and social media numbers were each positive. AKC.org had more than 8 million unique users monthly. AKC Marketplace saw increases in both advertised litters and breeders who listed litters.

Next, Peter Rohslau presented the Financial Report. For 2019, the AKC increased revenues by 4.4%. Expenditures increased 3.8% for the year. Operating income of \$663, 000 was an improvement over 2018. The largest expenditures were for payroll and benefits. Investments generated nearly \$15,000,000 in gains for 2019, a return of 19%. AKC's assets ended 2019 with a balance of \$126 million dollars. This was a decrease from the prior year. The decrease was mostly attributable to the AKC paying down all of its short-term debt, the write down of affiliate assets, along with a significant increase cash outflows related to our pension and other post-retirement costs. The short-term debt was acquired in 2018 in relation to the construction of the AKC's 14 headquarters along with the Museum of the Dog at 101 Park Avenue. Total liabilities decreased significantly from \$106 million at the end of 2018 to \$85 million at December 31, 2019.

The delegates voted on four amendments to the various Rules. The first vote was on Rules Applying to Dog Shows Chapter 9, Section 2 – Superintendents and Show Secretaries, which would allow for an individual to be approved as a Show Secretary for the events held by one all-breed or group club and any additional events held on the same day and at the same site as the club, once in any calendar year. This amendment was presented by Staff to the AKC Board based on a request by a member of the Board of Directors and brought forward with approval from the AKC Board of Directors. Two-thirds of the delegates voted in the affirmative and the amendment passed. Chapter 9, Section 2 now reads:

#### **Chapter 9 SECTION 2.**

Any qualified person may make application to The American Kennel Club for approval to act as Show Secretary of a dog show. There is no limit on the number of Specialty Shows for which an individual may be approved Show Secretary. An individual shall be approved as Show Secretary for the show or shows of only one group or one all-breed club and any group or all-breed show held on the same day and site of the club in a calendar year. An individual must hold a license from The American Kennel Club as Superintendent in order to be approved as Superintendent for more than one group or one all-breed club and events held the same day and site with the club in a calendar year.

The second vote was on an amendment to Rules Applying to Dog Shows Chapter 11, Section 8-A – Dog Show Entries, Conditions of Dogs Affecting Eligibility, which removes the requirement for an injury to have occurred for an Event Committee to disqualify a dog that has attacked a person or a dog at its event, presenting a hazard to persons or other dogs. The amendment was proposed by the Staff, supported and brought forward with approval from the AKC Board of Directors. This vote was postponed at the December 2019 meeting to allow for questions to be addressed by Staff regarding this amendment. A delegate moved to postpone the vote until the June 2020 meeting. A majority of the delegates voted for the postponement.

The third vote involved an amendment to Rules Applying to Dog Shows Chapter 14, Section 5 – Measuring, Weighing and Color Determinations When Factors of Disqualification in Breed Standards or Eligibility Under the Conditions of a Class or Division of a Class Cancellation of



Awards. This amendment rewords the section to add language to specify that all equipment must meet AKC requirements, and inserts it into the rule. The change also generalizes the wording for wickets to eliminate the need to modify in the future and clarifies expectation for a number of sets of wickets and scales that must be provided at all-breed, group or specialty shows. This amendment was proposed by the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee and was brought forward with approval from the AKC Board of Directors. Two-thirds of the delegates voted in favor. Chapter 14, Section 5 now reads:

**Chapter 14 SECTION 5.**

Event Committees shall be responsible for providing suitable equipment meeting all AKC requirements for determining eligibility with respect to height and weight at every show. Event Committees may delegate this responsibility to Superintendents/Show Secretaries. All-breed shows shall be required to have at least one complete set of wickets (two sets for shows with entries of 1,000 or more) and at least one digital scale with a platform of sufficient size to safely accommodate all weighable breeds. A certified and stamped weight is also required.

Specialty Shows and Group Shows where measurable or weighable breeds are entered shall provide the appropriate wicket(s) and/or a digital scale with a platform of sufficient size to safely accommodate all breeds that might be measured or weighed at the event. A certified and stamped weight is also required

The last vote was on an amendment to the Beagle Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedures for Brace, Small Pack and Small Pack Option, Field Trials and Two-Couple Packing Hunting Tests Chapter 6, Section 4. This amendment removed the requirement to show the street address in the premium list for the judges, trial chair and club officers. This amendment was proposed by the Beagle Advisory Committee and the Delegate Field Trial and Hunting Test Committee supported this change for all types of field trials. It was brought forward with approval from the AKC Board of Directors. This change also applies to the following:

- Beagle Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedures for Large Pack Field Trials (Chapter 6, Section 4)
- Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedures Dachshunds (Chapter 6, Section 4)
- Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedures for Basset Hounds (Chapter 6, Section 4)
- Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedure for Spaniels (Chapter 7, Section 1)
- Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedure for Pointing Breeds (Chapter 7, Section 1)
- Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedure for Retrievers (Chapter 7, Section 1)

Two-thirds of the delegates voted in favor of the amendment. Chapter 6, Section 4 (and the other Chapters and Sections noted) now reads:

**CHAPTER 6, SECTION 4.**

A club that has been granted permission by The American Kennel Club to hold a licensed or member field trial, before its premium list and entry forms shall be printed, must send to The American Kennel Club for approval a copy of a questionnaire form supplied by The American Kennel Club which will specify the exact location of the grounds where the trial is to be run; whether the trial will be run in braces, small packs, or large packs; the classes to be run and their conditions; the place where the drawing or numbering will be done and, for a Large Pack trial, 8

the hours during which hounds will be measured for each class; the time entries close for each class (Note: entries may not be limited for Beagle Field Trials; Two-Couple Pack Events may be limited); the date each class is to start; the names and addresses of the Judges and the classes which each is to judge; a complete list of money, ribbon prizes and special prizes which the club wishes to offer; the entry fee; the names and addresses of the officers of the club and of the Field Trial Secretary; the name and address of the chairman and the names of the other members of the Field Trial Committee. The premium list and/or announcements for each licensed or member field trial shall contain all the information set forth on the official AKC Event Application form as approved by the American Kennel Club, except the addresses for the judges, trial chair and club officers need only include the city and state. The premium list shall be of official size.

Vice President Kirsten Bahlke gave a report on the AKC's new digital branding campaign.

Delegate Gail LaBerge spoke about AKC PAC

Lastly, the delegates watched a video on the January Meet The Breeds event.

The delegates voted to elect Dr. Carmen L. Battaglia Dr. Michael Knight and Karolynne McAteer to the Board of Directors, Class of 2024. Dr. Thomas M. Davies ran unopposed for the Board of Directors, Class of 2021 and was duly elected.

#### **June 2020**

The June meeting of the AKC Delegates was held via Zoom on June 25, 2020. There were 313 delegates in attendance.

The Board appointed three ad hoc committees in the areas of Communications, the Judging Approval Process, and Sample Bylaws. The committees' recommendations will be presented, once formulated.

President Sprung in his report noted that, as of the meeting date, over 11,370 events had been canceled for 2020 which represented 50% of the total annual events. During 2020, however, individual and litter registrations saw significant increases. The figures were reported to be the "best in decades."

Theodore Phillips, newly appointed chief financial officer, gave the financial report. Mr. Phillips reported that as of May 31, litter registrations totaled almost 115,000 which was a 5% increase over the prior year, and represented the best January – May since 2009. For the same period, individual registrations were over 291,000 which represented a 12% increase over the same period in 2019. Entries were down 49% and events were down 55%. When comparing the year-to-date financial results at the end of May 2020, total revenues were 5% higher which reflected increases across all revenue lines except events. Total expenses were 1.4% lower as a result of the cost containment measures implemented by management because of expected lower levels of business activity and an anticipated need for a lower operating cost structure. Finally, net operating income as of May 31, 2020, was \$4.6 million as compared to \$2.6 million in 2019.

The delegates did not vote on any amendments at this zoom meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

John R. Lewis, Jr.  
Delegate, Sussex Spaniel Club of America