

## Vice President's 2022 Report of the Committee Chairs

It is nice that the dog show world is opening up again and that finally The Pacific Northwest Sussex Spaniel Club is getting their opportunity to host the 2022 SSCA National. It sounds like an enormous amount of work and preparation went into putting this on and I am sorry that I will miss out for personal reasons.

Thank you to all the Committee Chairs who submitted their respective reports.

The Breeder Referral Report from Jenni Toebben is that she had 82 requests for information on Sussex Spaniels. Most were interested in puppies, but a few were interested in older dogs. Jenni feels that we need to stress that a Sussex is not a slow, lethargic breed. They are a sporting breed after all and any of us who have seen them on the hunt know they can move accordingly.

The Field Committee Report from Patricia Petraglia is that there was no activity in 2022. She reports that this is partly due to the Covid pandemic, to bird flu and neurotoxin issues with water sites throughout the country. Patricia also feels that for these events to continue there needs to be more participants in gunning, bird planting, bird procurement and grounds, etc. That said, Sussex can participate in any AKC Spaniel hunt test.

The Judges Selection Report from Patricia Petraglia is that there was no current activity for Judge Selection in 2022.

Patricia, as Chair, made the suggestion that given the expense of mailings and cost of copying that the SSCA consider moving to an online voting format. Let it be known that we have worked on this and are only waiting for the opportunity of the club to vote on this proposition.

The Membership Committee Chair from Karen Silensky is that membership directory was put into an Excel format that will make it more accessible to make changes in the future and a better format for printing the Directory.

Secondly, Karen updated the SSCA Lapel Pin and sent one to all members with their 2022 Directory. The response was positive and much appreciated from the members.

The SSCA approved 4 new members and there are 1 pending a vote in October. Unfortunately the club lost a couple of members for various reasons. Prompt payment of dues is an issue for some, but hopefully once we can pay online in the Members Only Page this will ease this issue.

Preservation Breeders Report from Marcia Deugan is that there are 7 that can be called preservation breeders.

Marcia points out that 2022 has been a failing year. Only 12 Sussex born in the U.S. have lived. It is imperative that we set our goals on preservation breeding. This is the foundation of the continuation of our Sussex Spaniels in America. We need more people willing to breed with this in mind and we need breeders to keep in mind the need for these puppies to be shown and used for future breedings. In short, we are in need of people stepping up.

The Gazette Article due in January 2022 from Marcia Deugan is an informative article on the subject of Tail Document. Judges need to know this and it is included with our Standard in all Seminar breed packets and also available on the SSCA website.

Another question addressed by Marcia is on natural whelping. Some believe it is better for the Sussex to undergo a c-section and this is not true. Sussex are fully capable of free whelping a litter and it is a healthier option for both the bitch and the puppies.

Sussex Spaniel Column Due April 2022 from Marcia Deugan is on Sussex Heads. The article discusses the two head types and that they are both correct for the breed. The frowning Sussex expression and how that is not the nature of the Sussex temperament. The eyes start out blue, change to green and darken to a rich brown by maturity. A true hazel color. The ears are set low, are lobe shaped and thickly covered with hair. Sussex are a slow maturing breed. The head and bite can change over a three to four year period. The 'nose wrinkling' sometimes interpreted as a snarl is actually a cheerful Sussex smile.

The Health Report from Marcia Deugan and John Robert Lewis Jr. is while hearts still need to be checked and PDP1 eliminated, the most important issue the Sussex Spaniel faces is the small number of puppies being produced.

In 1970 there were only 4 breedable Sussex and now there are over 600 and while that is a testament to the diligence it took, it is also true that it has been a slow progression. 2022, so far, has been a terrible year for Sussex puppies. This years total has only been 12 surviving puppies .

Sussex Breeders and want to be breeders are thinking progesterone testing and new improved techniques are necessary for having puppies. Marcia's experience over all these years have shown those testing to have proved useless and expensive. Veterinarians will tell you differently, but Marcia has found her 'go to' is to breed early and often.

Please consider these things, but realize that a strong bitch line that produces mostly litters without c-sections is paramount. A natural delivery is better for the bitch, the puppies and the breeders knowledge for the future of that bitch be able to actually deliver puppies.

If anyone has questions Marcia is always available to help out.

The Judges Seminar Report from Marcia Deugan is that only 5 people have signed up for this years Judges Seminar.

The Public Education Committee Report from Marcia Deugan is there is no Meet the Breed so far this year.

The Archives Committee Chair report from Eileen Tarrago is that Eileen and Marian Kaskar, who has held this position for many years, will be transferring the file cabinets the week of October 10, 2022. The physical archives will then be with Eileen Tarrago in Florida.

The Sussex Store Report from Eileen Tarrago is that the store is up and running extremely well. There are items in the store for sale and the store is making a profit. The new 2023 SSCA Calendar order of 35 sold out in 4 hours of its post on August 31st.. Eileen has already sold 55 calendars and placed yet another order to fill the demand. The calendars are producing a nice profit for the club. It's a beautiful calendar, so place your order while they last.

The Website Committee Chair Report from Lee Silensky is that the website is up and running now for over a year and additions are being made. The members Only Page launched, unfortunately with some glitches, but those issues are being worked on. An important article entitled No 'Designer' Sussex was added to the home page showing our strong, unwavering position on keeping our Sussex a purebred breed and never to be used to interbreed with any other dog breed. Our stand on keeping Sussex as they were intended to be. Please check in on the website as we are adding news and club information regularly.

The Report from the Regional Sussex Spaniel Club, The Heart of Ohio, from Beth Launder is that they are moving along nicely for their regional specialty in October at Wauseon, Ohio. They had their AGM and there was going to be changes to their board.

The Report from the Regional Sussex Spaniel Club, The Pacific Northwest Sussex Spaniel Club, from Patricia Shaw is that preparation is underway for the 2022 National in Olympia, Washington. We are all looking forward to hearing all about it and seeing many pictures.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lee Silensky

## **Sussex Spaniel Club of America Breeder Referral Report 2022**

Since my last report submitted about the same time last year, I have answered requests for 82 requests for information about Sussex Spaniels. Most people are interested in puppies, and I give them the Breeder List, as well as the information sheet about Sussex Spaniels. A few people are interested in older dogs, and I have occasionally given them information on older dogs that are available if a breeder has contacted me.

A few people follow up to say thank you, and I rarely hear back from most people who contact me, so I am not sure how many actually follow through on contacting breeders. I always mention that we have a small breed, and they may have to wait a bit for a dog.

I do think we need to stress in any of our descriptions of our breed that they are NOT a slow, lethargic breed. As I describe them to people- they will not win a foot race with an English Springer Spaniel, but they are still sporting dogs, and still have energy and drive. I have had various people contact me who own American Cockers and King Charles Cavalier Spaniels because they want something larger, or they think the breed is more laid back than an American Cocker. I do my best to dispel misconceptions about our breed. I also mention the barking- for many people, who live in apartments or condos, this is a deal-breaker. No breed is perfect for everyone, so I try and give the good and not-so-good traits of Sussex Spaniels.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you!

Jenni Toebben  
SSCA Breeder Referral  
402.681.8966  
Jenni.toebben@bhhsamb.com



**From:** Patricia Petraglia px3@msn.com  
**Subject:** Field report  
**Date:** July 31, 2022 at 8:27 AM  
**To:** silensky@comcast.net

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#### Field Committee Report

There was no activity in 2022. This is partly due to pandemic issues, as well as to bird flu and neurotoxin issues with water sites in various regions throughout country. As a practical matter, in order to put on events, there would have to be an increase in member interest and participation, as field events require active members for various positions including gunning, bird planting, bird procurement, and grounds, etc. In the meantime Sussex can run in any AKC spaniel hunt test put on by other clubs so there are still opportunities to work toward a field title. The advantage above this to SSCA would be monetary, with careful control of expenses of a club-sponsored test. The most active areas for spaniel hunt tests is usually centered on East Coast, Mid-Atlantic, and Midwest, making these areas able to draw more spaniel entries. This is necessary to supplement the small number of Sussex that might participate.

Members wanting information about field work/interest can reach out, and the Committee can guide you in getting started.

Patricia Petraglia  
Chair

Sent from my iPad

**From:** Patricia Petraglia px3@msn.com  
**Subject:** Judges selection report  
**Date:** July 31, 2022 at 8:07 AM  
**To:** silensky@comcast.net

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#### Judges Selection Report

No activity for Judges Selection in 2022. As Chair, I made the suggestion that given the expense of mailings and copying costs, as well as the low response rate of membership, that SSCA consider moving to an online voting format. This follows what other breed clubs are doing to control expenses and possibly increase membership participation. Bylaws may need revision to move to this format, but should be possible given other national breed clubs have done so.

Patricia Petraglia

Sent from my iPad

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**From:** Karen Silensky karenjsilensky@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Fwd: 2022 SSCA Membership Report  
**Date:** August 17, 2022 at 1:08 PM  
**To:** karen Silensky karenjsilensky@gmail.com

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Karen Silensky <karenjsilensky@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** 2022 SSCA Membership Report  
**Date:** July 26, 2022 at 6:00:52 PM MDT  
**To:** Lee Silensky <silensky@comcast.net>

Hello to all the SSCA Board of Directors and Members.

It has been an extremely busy time for the Membership Committee.

First thing that had to be done and needed to be done, starting from scratch I had to update the SSCA Membership Directory onto an EXL format that the printer could use for printing the 2022 Directory.

There were many changes that had to be completed before printing. these new updated changes that were done will also allow the Club's website access to an easier quicker way to communicate to all their Members through their email and for the future Members page only that will also allow members to change their address , phone numbers etc.

Second thing I upgraded the SSCA Lapel Pin which was included and sent to all Members with their 2022 Directory, the response was very positive and much appreciated from the members!

The club had 4 new approved members for 2022 and one pending for August's upcoming Board meeting.

Unfortunately we lost a couple of members and have 3 that I have tried for months through email & phone to communicate about their renewal information by sending the Form needed & amount for renewal Dues.  
I haven't received or heard anything from them.

Also have 2 members that have still not sent their checks in after reassuring me that they wanted to be members. That number didn't include the two ladies in Australia who need Pay Pal to pay, which the Club doesn't have yet.

Thank You. Karen Silensky Membership Committee

## PRESERVATION BREEDERS

There are now 7 of us in this breed that can be called preservation breeders. We try to have litters on a regular basis. Yes, Sussex are hard to breed, yes, Sussex are expensive to breed. It is an emotional roller coaster with thrills and delights when a litter is successfully whelped and thrives, and it is depressing and heartbreaking when the breeding fails.

So far, 2022 is a failing year. So far, in the first 7 months, there have been 9 Sussex born in the US that have lived. One litter of 6 was what most breeds would term a "normal litter". There was one survivor of a 3 puppy litter and two litters with a singleton puppy. Other litters were re-absorbed, or died in the first days. Other litters just didn't happen no matter the tests and timing and experts.

One of the problems is that when you do get a litter, people want pets. Many state that they want a show quality puppy but they only want it as a pet. They are not interested in showing or breeding. If you sell your puppies as pets then it does not help the breed. Certainly it shows a small number of people what an enchanting dog the Sussex can be, but it doesn't help the breed as a whole. Which means that the breeder needs to keep something themselves from the litter to



carry on the breed or sell to someone who will do so. Promises don't count. Pet people will do almost anything to get their hands on a puppy and then tell you later that their vet told them the best thing to do was to neuter the dog and they did.

We need more Sussex litters and to get them we need more Sussex breeders. Some of us are getting – can I say the word “old”?

The rise in prices of everything has hurt us also – vet prices are higher, dog food – mine has gone up \$10 a bag in the last year- hamburger up 25% , it goes on and on. But we must carry on.

I encourage anyone in another breed or just wanting to have and help this very special breed to think it over carefully and then contact our breeder referral person Jenni Toebben at [jenni.toebben@bhhsamb.com](mailto:jenni.toebben@bhhsamb.com) and ask her to put you in touch with one of our preservation breeders. Not just someone who once had a litter , but someone who actually breeds and is willing to help you to do the same. We will gladly mentor you and help you to help our wonderful breed.

Marcia Deugan    [ZIYADAHreg@aol.com](mailto:ZIYADAHreg@aol.com)  
239-947-2426

Gazette article due Jan. 2022

Some judges have recently requested more information on tails in Sussex. If you are a judge and do not have the tail document put out a few years ago by the SSCA, here it is again. Judges need to do their research before they accept a judging assignment. This document is included with our Standard in all our Seminar breed packets and also available on the SSCA website.

## TAIL DOCUMENT

### THE SUSSEX SPANIEL CLUB OF AMERICA, AKC PARENT CLUB OF THE BREED SUSSEX SPANIEL, UPDATED STATEMENT ON TAIL DOCKING AND NATURAL (UNDOCKED)TAILS

The Sussex Spaniel Standard states, in it's opening paragraph , that Sussex have been, since the 1800s, "an excellent hunting companion" "Its short legs, massive build, long body, and habit of giving tongue when on scent made the breed ideally suited to penetrating the dense undergrowth and flushing game within range of the gun. Strength, maneuverability, and desire were essential for this purpose. Although the breed has never gained great popularity in numbers, the Sussex Spaniel continues today essentially unchanged in character and general appearance from those 19th century sporting dogs."

Breed historians note that Sussex Spaniels have been depicted with docked tails since then and in both field and conformation; docked tails perform a utilitarian function and reinforce the breed's long, low outline. Working in dense undergrowth necessitates docking to prevent injury.

However, the AKC approved breed standard for the Sussex Spaniel does not include any disqualifications. While most dogs in the United States have been customarily and routinely docked, Sussex Spaniels imported to this country from abroad are not. While an undocked (natural) tail may not be customary in the US, it is considered acceptable

When judging a Sussex Spaniel with a docked or natural tail, please remember the breed standard's description of correct tail carriage - "*set low. When gaiting the Sussex Spaniel exhibits nice tail action but does not carry the tail above the level of the back.*" Tails, - whether docked or natural - should not be carried above the level of the back. Sussex Spaniels that demonstrate incorrect tail carriage should be faulted.

The Standard also states "The tail is thickly covered with moderately long feather", and "The features of lesser importance are the eyes, nose, neck, chest and shoulders, tail, and coat."

Ultimately, it is your responsibility as the judge to interpret the breed standard and assign that interpretation to the entries in your ring. The determination of your awards should always be by the assimilation of the overall positive characteristics of your exhibits.

The Standard also states "The tail is thickly covered with moderately long feather", and "The features of lesser importance are the eyes, nose, neck, chest and shoulders, tail, and coat."

Sussex Spaniel Club of America  
June 2015

Another question that has come up recently is that there are some breeders telling people that c-sections in Sussex are not only frequent but also necessary, This is not true. Sussex Spaniels are fully capable of free whelping a litter. Constant attention by the breeder is essential . A Sussex may go 2 or 3 hours or more between puppies, but after over 50 years of breeding Sussex I can say that most of my litters have been naturally whelped and the puppies are more alert and easier to raise. Solo puppies where there isn't enough oxytocin produced to start labor and very large litters where the uterus has no room to contract are the most common cause of a c-section in this breed.

May 2022 be full of heathy people and dogs!

Marcia Deugan  
239-947-2426

ZIYADAHreg@aol.com

## SUSSEX SPANIEL COLUMN DUE APRIL 2022

### Sussex Heads

There are two different types of heads in Sussex. The Harviestoun head is slightly longer and a bit narrower. It has been called a “houndy “ head. The Rosehill head is rounder and fuller. Both head types are correct and you will see variations of the two types as they are frequently combined.

Every Sussex head should have a clearly defined , full stop. The brows are fairly heavy and produce a frowning expression, which causes people seeing their first Sussex to exclaim “He looks so sad!” which could not be more wrong. Their eyes start out as blue when they first open, changing to a green and then proceeding to darken as the dog ages, reaching a rich golden brown by maturity. This color is called hazel, which is the color of a hazelnut's outer shell.

Ears are set low, even with the corner of the eye , are lobe shaped and thickly covered with hair.

Sussex are a slow maturing breed and heads can change and develop up to three or four years of age. Bites can change too, with the lower jaw continuing to grow after the top stops. A scissors bite is preferred but any deviation from this is only a minor fault.

Many Sussex are proficient at “nose wrinkling” , a sort of cheerful Sussex smile. This often startles people, judges


included, who do not know the breed as they interpret it as a snarl.

The next SSCA National will be in Olympia, WA in Sept. 2022.

Marcia Deugan

239-947-2426

ZIYADAHreg@aol.com

**From:** Marcia Deugan ziyadahreg@aol.com   
**Subject:** Health Report  
**Date:** August 31, 2022 at 3:15 PM  
**To:** silensky@comcast.net

MD

## Health Report 2022

While hearts still need to be checked and PDP1 eliminated , by far the most important issue the Sussex Spaniel faces today (and in years and years before) is the small number of puppies being produced.

I have always said that this is a self limiting breed, with us losing almost as many as we produce in a year. When you go back to over 50 years ago when I first got into this breed you can see that we are making progress – 4 breedable Sussex here in the US in 1970 and over 600 now – but progress is slow – very very slow.

So far, this has been a terrible year for puppies. Pure bred puppies, not mixes with Schnauzers or Cockers. Here in the US, puppies born and living from Jan. 1 until Aug. 31 , 2022 breeders are:

Angela Mognahan - 2 litters of 1 puppy each

Marcia Deugan - 1 litter of 6

Kitty Cahoon - 1 litter of 1

Brenda Griffin - 1 litter of 1

Sally Sasser - 1 litter of 2

This totals only 12 born and surviving puppies . Now is your chance to correct me if you know of some born that I do not have listed. I will more than happily add them.

I personally know of 11 litters planned and bred that did not take.

As always, the question is “why?”

Bobby calls this the worse puppy producing year since the 1970s.

Sussex breeders or want to be breeders are very much into progesterone testing and all the new and improved techniques for having puppies.

Thank you – progesterone testing on my dogs proved useless and expensive. Veterinarians will tell you differently, but over the years I have

found that Sussex often ovulate more than once during a season. My "go to" is to breed early and often. This works for my dogs. Since 7 of the 12 puppies born this year were mine (I have the sire of Kitty Cahoon's litter), you might want to think about it.

I also do very limited vaccines, believe in titer testing, and separate vaccines, heartworm preventatives, flea and tick meds etc. by weeks, and months, not days.

Please consider not only these things, but a strong bitch line that produces mostly litters without c-sections. Any bitch can run into a problem and require an emergency c-section, but most Sussex bitches should be able to have a natural delivery. Better for the bitch, the puppies, and the breeder's knowledge for the future of that bitch being able to actually deliver puppies. Some people are stating that Sussex must always be born by c-section and this is not true. It is true that litters of only one puppy do mostly require this as not enough hormones are there to start labor, but on the whole this is a sturdy breed able to deliver on their own. Out of my last 7 litters I have had only one c-section and that was because one of the puppies was sideways and unable to be manually repositioned.

I am here if you want advice on having puppies. Just ask.

Marcia Deugan  
John Robert Lewis, JR.



**From:** Marcia Deugan ziyadahreg@aol.com  
**Subject:** more committees  
**Date:** August 31, 2022 at 3:53 PM  
**To:** silensky@comcast.net



We have only 5 people signed up for the Judges Seminar:

Monica McCaffery

Brenda Griffin

Rusty Morton

Sally Sasser

Janet Vining Mitchell

Judges Education Committee

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Public Education Committee

No Meet The Breeds so far this year.

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**From:** Graciano Tarrago tarrago@verizon.net  
**Subject:** Sussex Store Report  
**Date:** September 4, 2022 at 5:18 PM  
**To:** Lee S. Silensky silensky@comcast.net

GT

**The Sussex Spaniel Store has a profit of \$805.00 since it's launch on October 5, 2021. No new product has been added or replenished. The store stills has inventory of all its goods, ie: orange tote, small & medium clutch and puzzle.**

**The 2023 SSCA has a net profit of \$734.06 from 55 calendars sales. Thirty Five (35) calendars sold out within 4 hours of its post on August 31st. A second order (20 calendars) have been placed and only a few calendars remain.**

[Sent from the all new AOL app for iOS](#)

**From:** Graciano Tarrago tarrago@verizon.net  
**Subject:** Archives  
**Date:** September 4, 2022 at 5:24 PM  
**To:** Lee S. Silensky silensky@comcast.net

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Marion Kaskar and I are still working on the details of transferring the file cabinets of archives to me in Florida. Tentatively, the week of October 10, 2022 will be the physical transfer from Marian to me. I have taken sole responsibility of the archives since January 2022.

[Sent from the all new AOL app for iOS](#)

## Report of the Website Committee Chair

The Sussex Spaniel Club of America website has been up and running for over a year now. The Board chose to use Wordpress for the website and because of that it can grow indefinitely to keep up with our growing needs. It has expanded quite a bit in the last six months.

We have opened up the Members Only Page to all of our members, where they can see the history of our club since its inception 40 years ago. The Presidents Letter is there to inform members of what's new in the SSCA. It is an active location so everyone can update their personal information. If someone moves or changes their phone number they can update it right there, quick and easy. This will streamline the ability to keep everyone informed and keep the communication lines open. We are hoping that sooner than later we will also be able to vote electronically in the Members Only Page, saving the club hundreds of dollars and saving countless hours in preparations. Let it be clear that anyone who would prefer a paper, mail in ballot will certainly have that option open to them. We are also hoping that it will be possible to pay yearly membership dues and donations to the club right online.

We added a wonderful, strong article entitled No'Designer' Sussex to the homepage to make it abundantly clear our stand and position of interbreeding Sussex Spaniels to any other breed of dog. We value our purebred Sussex just the way they were intended.

Let it be known that there were some glitches in opening the Members Only Page and many members had a hard time accessing it and many have still not gotten in. We are working on these issues. The website is and will always be a work in progress.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lee Silensky

**From:** bethbigbear@aol.com  
**Subject:** Re: Vice-Presidents Annual Report  
**Date:** July 26, 2022 at 1:50 PM  
**To:** silensky@comcast.net



We are moving along nicely for our regional specialty in October at Wauseon, Ohio  
We will be having our AGM next weekend and there will be changes to our board.  
Beth

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

On Tue, Jul 26, 2022 at 3:41 PM, Lee S Silensky  
<silensky@comcast.net> wrote:

Beth and Tom,

It's that time again. I am writing to ask for your Report from The Heart of Ohio.

Thank you and I hope you are doing well!

Lee

**From:** Patricia Shaw chatapa@hotmail.com  
**Subject:** Re: Vice-presidents Annual Report  
**Date:** July 26, 2022 at 6:18 PM  
**To:** Lee S Silensky silensky@comcast.net



Hello Lee,

There's nothing to report until after the national.

Patricia

[Get Outlook for Android](#)

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**From:** Lee S Silensky <silensky@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 26, 2022 12:47:57 PM  
**To:** Patricia Shaw <chatapa@hotmail.com>  
**Subject:** Vice-presidents Annual Report

Hi Patricia,

It's that time again. I am writing to ask for your Report from The Sussex Spaniel Pacific Northwest.

Thank you,

Lee

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The Awards Committee has made a major transition this year (2022). Rosemary Cushman has stepped down after many years of doing such a wonderful job for the SSCA and she should be thanked for all her efforts!

Since this is a transition with a new Chairman and committee we are not able to have all the awards for the 2022 Specialty but we are working to get everything done and mailed to all the awards recipients.

We are looking forward to 2023 and hopefully getting all the details sorted out!

Thanks for your patience and understanding!

**Kim Kesselring**  
Awards Committee Chairman

## 2022 SSCA TREASURER'S REPORT

2022 was a very busy year for the SSCA. We were pleased to be able to send funds to the Ukraine to assist in their rescue and support efforts in addition to our support for the regional clubs' specialties.

Below will be a list of the larger debits we processed for the 2022 year.

12/27/21 \$700 Sportsmen's Insurance for the 2022 year

3/23/22 \$2040 for the Ukraine efforts. This includes a \$40 international transaction fee

4/19/22 \$2300.00 Pacific NW Sussex Spaniel Club for 2022 National expenses

Currently the club funds held by the University of Indiana Credit Union are

\$18846.57 checking      \$41297.63 savings      Total \$60144.20

Balances by month are:

Checking :	1/31/22	\$21409.26	
	2/28/22	\$21389.65	
	3/31/22	\$20735.99	
	4/30/22	\$19683.83	
	5/31/22	\$19734.95	
	6/30/22	\$19734.95	there were no new transactions in June
	7/31/22	\$20046.10	
	8/31/22	\$18846.57	

Savings:	1/31/22	\$41270.25
	2/28/22	\$41273.42
	3/31/22	\$41276.93
	4/30/22	\$41280.32
	5/31/22	\$41283.83
	6/30/22	\$41287.22
	7/31/22	\$41290.73
	8/31/22	\$41297.63

To date all the reports to Indiana and Missouri Secretaries of State have been filed.

Please be assured that all requests for payment and/or reimbursement for members whose personal funds have been used to pay for items on behalf of the SSCS are always paid promptly. Normal turn around time for the reimbursement of funds to vendors and/or members usually occur within 1-3 days.

Respectfully submitted

C. Sue Caniff

Treasurer SSCA



## Delegate's Report 2022

### December 2021 Meeting

The December 2021 meeting of the AKC Delegates was held On December 17, 2021 in Orlando, Florida. In attendance at this meeting were 231 delegates.

In his President's report, Dennis Sprung mentioned that although the number of unique breeders increased for the seventh year in a row, the number needs to increase significantly as the number of current breeders cannot keep pace with the demand for purebred dogs.

Following the financial report by CFO Ted Phillips, the delegates voted on several amendments to *Charter and Bylaws of the American Kennel Club* and the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows*. The first vote was on *Charter and Bylaws of the American Kennel Club*, Article VII, new Section 3. This amendment deletes Article VIII, Section 6, which discusses the Nominating Committee, to Article VII which addresses the election of the Board members. This amendment was proposed by the Delegate Bylaws Committee and brought forward with approval from the AKC Board of Directors. This amendment passed with the required two-thirds majority. Article VIII, Section 6 is deleted and Article VII, Section 3 now reads:

***SECTION 3.*** *All elections shall be by ballot; except, if no valid additional nominations are received by the Executive Secretary by November 15; the Nominating Committee's slate shall be declared elected at the annual meeting and no balloting will be required. If no valid additional nomination(s) are received by the Executive Secretary by November 15; for any partial term up for election, the partial term candidate shall be declared elected at the annual meeting and no balloting will be required.*

The second vote was on Article VII, Section 9 (now Section 10) of the Charter and Bylaws of The American Kennel Club. The amendment removes language that is superfluous and not necessary to understand the specific powers entrusted to the Board. This amendment was proposed by the Delegate Bylaws Committee and brought forward with approval from the AKC Board of Directors. This amendment passed with the required two-thirds majority. Article VII, Section 10 now reads:

***SECTION 10.*** *The unexplained and unexcused absence of a Director from three (3) consecutive regular meetings of the Board shall operate as the accepted resignation of that Director from the Board.*

The third vote was on amendment to Article X, Section 7 of the Charter and Bylaws of The American Kennel Club. This amendment removes language that is superfluous and not necessary to understand the specific power entrusted to the board. This amendment was proposed by the Delegate Bylaws Committee and brought forward with AKC Board approval. Two-thirds of the delegates voted in favor of the amendment. Article X, Section 7 now reads:

***SECTION 7.*** *The Board shall have supervision and control of the AKC GAZETTE and shall determine the manner and form in which it shall be published*

The fourth vote was on Chapter 3, Sections 2, 4, and 5 of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows – Dog Show Classifications, which inserts language from Chapter 3, Sections 4 and 5 into Chapter 3, Section 2 pertaining to how age is calculated for the purpose of entry into an AKC event. It removes language from Chapter 3, Sections 4 and 5 as to how age is calculated to eliminate redundancy. As the determination of age for entry relates to all classes and not just Puppy and 12-18 Months, insertion into Section 2 applies it globally. This also provides examples for benchmark ages – 6 months, 12 months and 18 months. This amendment was proposed by the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee and brought forward with approval from the AKC Board of Directors. Two-thirds of the delegates voted in favor of the amendment. Chapter 3, Sections 2, 4, and 5 now reads:

***SECTION 2.*** *No class shall be provided for any dog under six months of age except at sanctioned events when approved by The American Kennel Club. For all classes, the age of a dog shall be calculated up to and inclusive of the first day of a show. For example, a dog whelped on January 1st is six months of age on July 1st of the same year, 12 months of age on January 1st and 18 months of age on July 1st of the following year. In a single show with multiple days of judging, the first day of a show is considered to be the first day on which there is regular conformation judging in accordance with Section 3 of this chapter. (Sweepstakes and Futurities are not considered regular conformation classes).*

***SECTION 4.*** *The Puppy Class shall be for dogs that are six months of age and over, but under twelve months, that are not champions. Clubs may further divide the puppy class into two age groups consisting of six months of age and under nine months, and nine months of age and under twelve months.*

***SECTION 5.*** *The Twelve-to-Eighteen Month Class shall be for dogs that are twelve months of age and over, but under eighteen months, that are not champions. Clubs may further divide the Twelve-to-Eighteen Month Class into two age groups consisting of twelve months of age but under fifteen months, and fifteen months of age but under eighteen months.*

The fifth vote of the meeting was on Chapter 3, Section 8 of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows – Dog Show Classifications, which provides clubs the opportunity to divide the Bred-by-Exhibitor Class by age; Puppy and Adult. This follows the same logic as the Puppy and 12-18 Month Classes. Dividing the BBE Class by age would be an option for clubs and not a requirement. An entry from any division of class awarded winners would be counted toward the BBE medallion as it advanced from the BBE Class. The amendment was proposed by the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee and brought forward with approval from the AKC Board of Directors. This amendment passed on a two-thirds vote of the delegates. Chapter 3, Section 8 now reads:

2. Lack of membership and/or new members

3. The loss of convenient suitable and available sites in the area, or general loss of interest in the Sport by club members over time.

Mr. Phillips, CFO, gave the financial report. In this report he noted that litter registrations total 325,390 for 2021 which was 12.7 percent higher than 2020. Dog registrations total 801,985, which was 13.7 percent higher than 2020. The 2021 totals for both litter and dog registrations were the highest since 2008 and 2007, respectively. Mr. Phillips noted that operating revenues for 2021 totaled \$105 million, which is an increase of 23 percent over the prior year. Operating expenses total \$76 million, which is 7 percent greater than the prior year. During 2021, the AKC gave \$4,700,00.00 to affiliated charities. The total cost of the expenses for the Board of Directors in 2021 was \$325,542. As of December 31, 2021, total assets of AKC stood at \$198,000,000.

Following the Financial report, the delegates voted on one amendment to Section III, I of the Delegate Standing Rule on Committees – Herding, Earthdog and Coursing Events. This amendment proposed to change the Committee’s name and charge to include Scent Work. This amendment was proposed by the Delegate Herding, Earthdog and Coursing Committee and brought forward with approval from the Delegate Coordinating Committee. Two-thirds of the delegates voted in the affirmative and the amendment passed. Section III, I now reads:

***Section III.** The Delegates establish the following standing committees and charge them as follows:*

- 1. Herding, Earthdog, Coursing and Scent Work Events 1. To share information and procedures useful to the clubs that conduct herding, earthdog, coursing and scent work events.*
- 2. To find ways of making herding, earthdog, coursing and scent work events and the clubs that conduct such events more effective and efficient in serving the needs of their members and their communities.*
- 3. To support the role of herding, earthdog, coursing and scent work events and the clubs that conduct these events in enhancing and preserving the working skills of the breeds involved.*

Following this vote, Brandi Hunter Munden, VP of PR & Communications, presented a Communications update. In her report she stated that her department planned to increase AKC positive media coverage by 8%.

### **June 2022 Meeting**

The March 2021 meeting of the AKC Delegates was held on June 14, 2022, in Newark, New Jersey. There were 222 delegates in attendance.

Dr. Thomas Davis in his chairman’s report the creation of the Centennial Club which recognizes 107 clubs that have held events since 1922 or before. He also mentioned the Club Development Department. This department facilitates communication between AKC and all clubs and acts as a resource for clubs in their efforts to hold successful events and grow their membership. The department also shares best practices, provides educational materials and offers event-planning support. In addition, the department runs a private Facebook group for peer-to-peer interaction among club members. There are currently over

**SECTION 8.** *The Bred-by-Exhibitor Class shall be for dogs that are:*

- *Six months of age or older as of the first day of the show;*
- *Not Champions on the date of closing of entries for the show;*
- *Individually registered with The American Kennel Club as of the date of the show;*
- *Owned or co-owned by any of the breeders of record as of the date of the show.*

*Clubs may further divide the Bred-by-Exhibitor class into two age groups consisting of Puppy, for dogs that are six months of age but under twelve months, and Adult, for dogs that are twelve months of age and older.*

*The person handling the dog in this class must be a breeder of record and an owner of record of this dog.*

*In any subsequent classes for which a dog from the Bred-by-Exhibitor class or divisions of it becomes eligible, there are no restrictions as to who may handle.*

The final vote of the meeting was on Chapter 3, Section 11 of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows – Dog Show Classifications, which revises language for consistency, defining that 1st place undefeated dogs of the same sex from the defined classes defined by the rules and all division of them (age, color, markings, etc.) are eligible to compete in the Winners Class. It adds language to clarify that the only required classes to be offered are American Bred and Open, and all others are at the option of the club. This amendment was proposed by the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee 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 3, Section 11 now reads:

**SECTION 11.** *The Winners Class shall be divided by sex and each division shall be open only to undefeated dogs of the same sex which have won first prizes in the following classes and all divisions of: Puppy, Twelve-toFifteen Month, Fifteen-to- Eighteen Month, Twelveto-Eighteen Month, Novice, Amateur-Owner-Handler, Bred-by-Exhibitor, American-bred or Open Classes. There shall be no entry fee for competition in the Winners Class.*

*After the Winners prize has been awarded in one of the sex divisions, the second prize winning dog, if undefeated except by the dog awarded Winners, shall compete with the other eligible dogs for Reserve Winners. No eligible dog may be withheld from competition.*

*Winners Class shall be allowed only at shows where American-bred and Open Classes shall be offered. All other regular classes are at the option of the Club.*

#### **March 2022 Meeting**

The March 2022 meeting of the AKC Delegates was held on March 8, 2022, in Newark, New Jersey. There were 240 delegates in attendance.

In his report, President Sprung noted that over the past five years the AKC recognized 236 new clubs, while during the same period, 39 clubs had dissolved. As of March 2022, the AKC recognized 4166 clubs. Of these, 645 were member clubs, 4166 were licensed clubs, 95 were Sanctioned A clubs, and 86 were Sanctioned B clubs. The Club Relations Department noted the following reasons given for club disbandment:

1. Aging out

3,600 members of the group. The department has recently developed the Mentorship Program. This program makes it easier for newly formed clubs to become licensed. Most new clubs have a knowledgeable core who know how to hold events, and for whom the licensing process may seem somewhat arduous. The Mentorship Program eliminates the requirement to hold Bmatches and then A-matches and enables the clubs to move toward full recognition. AKC provides staff to mentor onsite and administratively as needed. Dr. Davies also mentioned that the AKC offers a weekly e-newsletter called AKC Communicates. To receive the e-newsletter, visit [www.AKC.org/subscribe](http://www.AKC.org/subscribe).

In his President's report, Dennis Sprung noted that 2022 litter registrations look to increase for the eighth consecutive year, but that 2022 individual registrations should be lower than 2021. He also mentioned that the average person who registers a dog with the AKC is 47 years of age. (No mention was made on how this figure was derived.)

Next, Ted Phillips, CFO, gave the Financial Report. He noted that litter registrations were 3% higher than the first quarter of 2021, and individual registrations were 8% lower than the prior period. As of March 31, events totaled 4,656, or 50% higher than the first quarter of 2021. Entries totaled almost 757,000, which is 53% higher compared to the first quarter of 2021. First quarter total operating revenues were \$26,900,000. Operating expenses for the same period were \$19,000,000. Total assets as of March 31 were \$246,000,000.

There was only one amendment to vote upon at the June 2022 meeting. The vote was on *Rules Applying to Dog Shows* Chapter 11, Section 6 – Dog Show Entries, Conditions of Dogs Affecting Eligibility. The proposed amendment would reformat the section for easier comprehension. It inserts verbiage to allow transfer between the divisions of the Bred-by-Exhibitor Class (puppy/adult) if offered; adds verbiage to specify transfer between the divisions of the Twelve-to-Eighteen Month Class; and permits age divisions of the Veterans Class. It also inserts language to recognize that transfer between Puppy and Twelve-to-Eighteen Month Classes may involve divisions of either and adds language for clarity as to when a transfer between classes must be completed at multi-day events. At least two-thirds of the delegates voted in favor of the amendment. Chapter 11, Section 6 now reads:

**SECTION 6.** *No entry may be changed or canceled unless notice of the change or cancellation is received in writing by the Superintendent or Show Secretary named in the premium list to receive entries, prior to the closing date and hour for entries, except that prior to the judging:*

- *a correction may be made in the sex of a dog,*
- *a dog may be transferred within the divisions of the Puppy Class, the Twelve-to-Eighteen Month Class, the Bred-by-Exhibitor Class, or the Veterans Class,*
- *a dog may be transferred between the Puppy and Twelve-to-Eighteen Month Classes or appropriate divisions thereof.*

*A dog determined to be ineligible, by its owner/ agent, for the class in which it has been entered may be transferred to an eligible Open Class at a show prior to the judging of any regular conformation class within the sex of that breed or variety, and that dogs which according to their owners' records have completed the requirements for a championship after the closing of entries for a show but whose championships are unconfirmed, may be transferred from one of the regular classes to the Best of Breed or Variety competition, provided this transfer is made by the Superintendent or Show Secretary at least one half-hour prior to the scheduled start of any regular conformation judging at the show; at a single show with multiple days of judging, the*

*transfer must be made at least one half-hour prior to the start of judging on the first day of the show (as defined in Chapter 3 Section 4).*

*No dog may otherwise be transferred to another class. Owners are responsible for errors in the entry forms, regardless of who may make such errors. However, superintendents and show secretaries that validate entries with AKC records may correct the dog information to match the AKC registration data for the dog as specifically authorized by the American Kennel Club.*

Respectfully submitted,

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

Breeder Referral :  
Jenni Toebben

Judges Selection Committee  
Patricia Petraglia

Field Committee :  
Patricia Petraglia and Pluis Davern

SSCA Store :  
Toni McCord and Eileen Ann Tarrago

Membership Committee :  
Kitty Cahoon and Karen Silensky

Archives Committee :  
Marian Kasker and Eileen Ann Tarrago

Website Committee :  
Lee Silensky

~~Awards Committee :  
Rosemary Cushman~~

Kim ✓

Public Education Committee :  
Marcia Deugan

AKC Gazette Columns :  
Marcia Deugan

Judges Education Committee :  
Marcia Deugan

Health Committee :  
John Robert Lewis Jr. and Marcia Deugan

Delegate Report :  
John Robert Lewis Jr.

Head of Office ✓

Pacific Northwest ✓

