

Vice President's 2023 Report of the Committee Chairs

Respectfully Submitted by Lee Silensky

It is always so nice to see so many Sussex Spaniels united in and out of the ring and their loving devoted owners sharing some time, stories and experiences together.

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

The Breeder Referral Report submitted by Jenni Toebben is that she received about 70 requested for information about Sussex Spaniels. The past year Jenni has updated the information sheet . A copy of the new information sheet is included in her report.

Jenni's goal for next year is to work with the AKC to update their description on their webpage. The current one leads people to believe that our dogs are low energy and so people are reaching out with this in mind seeking out a new pet. We all know that they are sporting dogs and can be very busy.

The Field Committee report submitted by Patricia Petraglia is that due to various factors, some which include environmental, such as neurotoxins in water from algae, grass awns and seeds make it extremely dangerous for dogs; as well as a limited interest among membership. Field events are very expensive to conduct due to grounds, ammo, and game birds. In order to put on these events qualified gunners are also required. Unless there is an uptick in interested members, it is unlikely SSCA will sponsor this type of event. If there are anyone interested in this type of event, please reach out to Patricia Petraglia for information on other venues where owner/ handler can participate with his/her Sussex.

The Report of the Judges Selection Committee Chair submitted by Patricia Petraglia is positive with the new advent of online voting to save money and time for this process. As this activity is only covered through 2023 Patricia is awaiting a response as to how the Club wishes to proceed.

The Membership Committee Chair submitted by Karen Silensky is that she continued to work on fine tuning the Membership Directory, by trying to make it inclusive, clearer and informative with the important page listing that all SSCA members need to know about at their fingertips. Karen feels that members are excited about the forward direction that is needed for the SSCA's future and the Membership Directory is apart of that movement for a healthier future for the Club and the Breed.

The Archives Committee Chair Report submitted by Eileen Tarrago is that the Archived had remained in the care of Marian Kasker until July 2023, when the Archived were transported to Bobby Lewis, who will secure the valuable and treasured Archives. Marian has looked after the files for more than 20 years and we can't thank her enough for keeping them safe for all of that time.

Eileen has throughout the year added catalogs from the National Specialty, September 9, 2022, the SSCA Calendar as well as the Canine Chronicles. The file also contains the Gazette columns from the President of the club, Marcia Deugan.

Last year, Eileen was given by a past member, a three ring scrap book of Sussex Spaniels documents that contain over 40 years of newspaper and magazine clippings, show results/ judging results, original typewriter typed standards, countless pictures of our beloved Sussex Spaniels. The Scrapbooker wanted the club to enjoy all of her years of complying this very entertaining, informative and priceless piece of work.

Eileen says and I quote "Always remember, before you throw it away, contact the archive committee, we may think it's Archive worthy"

The Awards Committee Chair Report submitted by Kim Kesselring is the Awards Committee (consisting of Kim Kesselring, Barbara Ohmann, Georgia Perdue and Brenda Griffin) has made great strides in updating the format of the awards and this year will be caught up with awards distribution. Their plan is to proactively gather awards data in the first quarter. Also, they plan to communicate to the membership the awards opportunities that they can again contribute to.

The Rescue Committee Chair Report submitted by Kim Kesselring is that 15 Sussex Spaniels (from a puppy mill action house) were rescued. It came to the attention of the SSCA Rescue Committee that an additional 8 Sussex Spaniel puppies were listed for auction. At that time the SSCA Board recognized that a private and separate rescue should be formed. With the initial monetary contributions from SSCA, SASS (Save All Sussex Spaniels) was formed and was able to obtain the 8 puppies. All rescued Sussex Spaniels (23 Total) were placed in good homes, under the spay/neuter contracts, after extensive interviews with prospective adopters and all are thriving.

SSCA Rescue will continue to help Sussex Spaniels in need according to the by-laws.

The Report from the Store Committee Chairs of Eileen Tarrago and Linda Reda, submitted by Eileen Tarrago is from September 2022 to September 2023 the Store had a profit of \$1500.00. The breakdown is Profits earned from the Pacific Northwest Show was \$345.00 and the profit from the 2023 Calendar was \$1155.00.

They will be adding new products to the SSCA Store online next calendar year, stay tuned.

The Website Committee Chair Report submitted by Lee Silensky is that in Early 2023 our Website designer moved on from the SSCA and we procured a new website designer, who had to rebuild the entire site. It looks similar, but all the errors have been fixed. The new website launched in late August 2023.

We have added online membership renewal and a payment method to streamline the renewal process. This will save the Membership Chair time and will save the club money. We will still honor any requests for mail in renewals by mail service.

During this process we found that our non profit status with the IRS had lapsed. This would not allow us to get a method of payment installed as we needed. We went to work and got our 501c7 reinstated.

In conjunction with the website we now have online voting. This will save our Secretary hours of stuffing ballots and save the club a lot of money too,

We will still honor any requests for paper mail in ballots for anyone choosing that method.

We purchased a new photo gallery plugin that is smooth to maneuver and is beautiful in functionality.

The Members Only Area will be completed in late October 2023 and invitations will be sent out to all members to login and input their personal information and their unique password for future entry. Even if you accessed the Members Only Area before, as it has been rebuilt you will have to do it again. We tried to make access easy.

The website is now completed in the vision we had hoped for. The vision was to be informative, educational, fun and beautiful. We will continue to post upcoming events and information and new pictures, so please check back often.

The Report from The Heart of Ohio Sussex Spaniel Club submitted by Brenda Griffin is that the past year has been one of re-organization and growth for the HOSSC. The loss of Debbi Miller and Lori Cowell, who were both instrumental in the club's leadership was very difficult. As it did for all dog clubs, the pandemic presented numerous challenges for their club's function and events.

This year their regional specialty was held in Madison, Ohio. They had a total of 26 entries in the specialty, with 4 in Veterans Sweepstakes, plus 2 beginner puppies.

The 2024 specialty will be held in Wauseon, Ohio, October 4th.

The HOSSC plans for 2024 include updating their website and updating their bylaws to reflect that most meetings are now held virtually. They are also in the progress of catching up with their awards program, which was suspended during the pandemic. They are excited about the growth of their membership and are looking forward to the year ahead. They remain grateful to the SSCA for their continued support of their regional club.

The Report from the Pacific Northwest Sussex Spaniel Club submitted by Patricia Shaw is the results from that show and is here in its entirety for review.

The Judges Education Committee Chair Report submitted by Marcia Deugan is there will be a Judges Seminar and hands on October 13 before the National judging with a hands on after judging. The new passage of the change on tails (stating that tails may be docked or undocked) will be addressed.

We will also have a Judges Seminar at the AKC Invitational in Orlando in December. The latest count for sign ups is 28, but may be as many as 52 as there were 5 years ago.

The Sussex Spaniel Gazette Articles written and submitted by Marcia Deugan January 2023, April 2023, July 2023 and October 2023 is here in their entirety. The information is vast. The highlights are that 2023 has been a banner year for Sussex puppies. Thus far there have been almost 50 puppies born and doing well. Marcia sends her congratulations to the breeders who have done such an outstanding job. As a club we are responsible for protecting and promoting the breed and it is easier to promote a breed when we have puppies! If your bitch doesn't get pregnant the first time, just keep trying. With Sussex one never knows. Marcia also documented the change in our breed standard in the docked tail or the undocked tail and that the tail set remains the same, set low, not carried above the level of the back.

Please note that this Vice Presidents Report of the Committee Chairs and all of my VP Reports of the Committee Chairs since 2019 are posted in the Members Only Area where any member can review anything they would like to. Also the Board Minutes, 2020,2021,2022 and when the year is finished the 2023 minutes are being posted in the Members only Area as part of our commitment to be transparent of all that is going on in our Sussex Spaniel Club of America.

The Public Education Committee Report submitted by Marcia Deugan is that since the AKC is doing random Meet The Breeds around the country and no members have been able to participate due to lack of dogs available, location, etc there is no report. Marcia feels it was

better for this club and other small numbered clubs when the Meet The Breeds we at Orlando at the AKC Invitational and in NYC.

The Health Committee Chair Report submitted by Marcia Deugan is after many members voiced their ideas on getting puppies, pregnancy, breeding and testing at the Washington National, it was asked that people send in their ideas to Bobby Lewis and Marcia Deugan. Unless Bobby received any feedback, Marcia has not received anything.

You may have noticed that Marcia Deugan is the Chair of many committees and is our outgoing President after many terms. Marcia has most likely held every position on the Board from it's beginning as a founding member of the Sussex Spaniel Club of America. Marcia's legacy, not that it is over by any means, will be her starting with a handful of Sussex Spaniels and is a major contributor to the fact that today we have approximately 675 Sussex in America today. Marcia has always bred to the standard that came from England. We owe a debt of gratitude to Marcia for the enjoyment we get in spending time in many ways with our Sussex Spaniels.

Bobby Lewis, the other remaining founding member of the Sussex Spaniel Club of America, recently received recognition from the American Kennel Club for being the AKC Delegate for the Sussex Spaniel Club of America for 25 years.

I defer to Bobby Lewis for his 25th AKC Delegate report.

Sussex Spaniel Club of America
Breeder Referral Report 2023

Since mid-August of 2022 (since I last submitted a report) I have had requests from approximately 70 people for information about Sussex Spaniels.

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 born each number to them. If I am aware of any recent litters, I do mention that also.

This past year I have updated the information sheet that I send with the list of breeders. A copy of the new information sheet is included with this report.

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.

This next year, I hope to work with AKC to update our description on their webpage. The current one leads people to believe that our dogs are low energy and so people contact me based on this information. We all know that they are sporting dogs and can be very busy. 😊

This year, I have had quite a few questions asking how Sussex get along with other pets- found that interesting!

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Jenni Toebben

402.681.8966

Jenni.toebben@bhhsamb.com

Submitted 9/22/2023

Is a Sussex Spaniel Right for You?

No, if:

1. You want a quiet dog. Sussex bark and they also howl. They are great little watch dogs. If someone is on your doorstep, they will let you know. They always have a reason to bark, but it can be that a leaf fell off a tree, or that someone rang the doorbell on TV (and you may not even have a doorbell).
2. You want a dog who will be content alone all day while you work for 10 hours and commute for 2 more. Sussex are companion dogs. They need to be with you. Most Sussex follow their people everywhere when they are home. If you work away from home for many hours each day, a Sussex is not for you. A Sussex needs the companionship of people and/or of other dogs-preferably both.
3. You want a dog that will be housebroken at 10 weeks. Sussex mature slowly and can be slow to housebreak. Some Sussex are never totally housebroken, which can be a dealbreaker for many people. They also shed and can drool.
4. You want a "slow, sedate" dog. Sussex are often misrepresented on this issue. While they won't win a footrace with an English Springer Spaniel, they are still a sporting breed, and have quite a bit of energy. They can even be busier than some other breeds. Sussex will run, play, swim and chew just like any other dog.
5. You want a "small" dog. Despite being referred to as "little brown dogs", Sussex are powerful and strong. A male can weigh 50 lbs. The Sussex is a unique breed that needs early training and direction from its owner to learn its place in the hierarchy of the family unit.
6. You want to make money breeding Sussex. People who breed Sussex know that you NEVER make a profit. Sussex are hard to get pregnant, to stay pregnant, may need a c-section and have a higher than average rate of early puppy deaths. The only person who will make money breeding Sussex is your vet!

Yes, if:

1. You want a good watch dog, a constant companion, a dog that wants to be with you whether inside, outside or anywhere else you go. They are truly "Velcro" dogs. Sussex do well with children if they are raised with them. This breed, like many others, needs socialization with children, cats or whatever they will have as companions. Children should be well-supervised around a dog, especially a puppy.

2. You want to do things with your dog. Every Sussex and owner should attend obedience classes. There are many things you can do with your Sussex- dog shows, obedience/rally trials, hunting, tracking, field work, agility, therapy dog work, playing ball, long walks and just being together.
3. You want a challenge. The Sussex Spaniel can be a challenge to train. They are intelligent but seem to process information a bit differently than many breeds. Drilling a command over and over makes them shut down. Short sessions are best. They can be stubborn with a soft nature, and do not take well to heavy correction (again they will shut down). Owners need patience and persistence when training. If you want to show in conformation, you might have to do some traveling. Your breeder can guide you on this activity.
4. You are willing to wait for a puppy. On average, only about 50 puppies are born in the U.S. each year with similar numbers in England. In 2022, less than 20 puppies were born in the U.S., but that number seems to be closer to the average of 50 in 2023. Sussex breeders and owners are a very dedicated group of people. We think Sussex Spaniels are the best dogs in the world and we do our best to keep them in the hands of people who feel the same way.
5. You have a sense of humor! Sussex will try and outsmart you, try your patience, embarrass you, love you and make you laugh.

REPORT OF FIELD COMMITTEE

There has been no activity this reporting season. As stated previously, this is due to various factors, some of which include environmental (neurotoxins in water from algae, grass awns and seeds extremely dangerous for dogs), as well as a limited interest among the membership. Field events are expensive to conduct due to cost of grounds, ammo, and game birds. In order to put on these events qualified gunners are also required. Unless there is a big uptick in interested members, it is unlikely SSCA will sponsor this type of event. For any interested member, however, please feel free to reach out, and as Chair, I can make some suggestions as to other venues where an owner/handler can participate with his/her Sussex.

Patricia Petraglia
Chair, Field Committee

REPORT OF JUDGES SELECTION COMMITTEE

The last activity covered judge selection through 2023. As chair of this committee, I have suggested that due to the high cost of putting together a selection packet that is sent to every member in good standing, that SSCA move to online voting for this activity. This will hopefully reduce cost to Club and incentivize membership voting. Given the Club recently utilized online voting for the breed standard change, ensuring the privacy of the vote should be firmly in place. As of this date, I am awaiting a response as to how the Club wishes to proceed.

Patricia Petraglia
Chair, Judges Selection

From: Karen Silensky karenjsilensky@gmail.com
Subject: 2023 Membership Chair Report
Date: August 11, 2023 at 3:46 PM
To: Lee Silensky silensky@comcast.net

The Membership chair has continued to work on fine tuning the Membership Directory, by trying to make it inclusive, clearer and informative with the important page listings that all SSCA members need to know about and can find that information easily.

I have had many members express genuine positive responses for the new updates made thus far and now receiving quicker more transparent comprehensive forms of communication about the clubs important issues, changes and the forward direction that is needed for it's future. I can confidently report that most are very excited about all that the SSCA is working hard to achieve for its Membership and a Healthier Future for the Breed.

Thank You. Karen Silensky

From: Graciano Tarrago tarrago@verizon.net
Subject: Archives, 2022-2023
Date: August 13, 2023 at 2:52 PM
To: Lee S. Silensky silensky@comcast.net



Archives, 2022-2023

The archives had remained in Keeling VA under the care of Marian Kasker until recently. In July the archives were moved to Nature Bridge, Va where Bobby Lewis will secure the valuable and treasured archives.

Marian has looked after the files for more than 20 years and we can't thank her enough for keeping them safe over years.

Throughout the year I have added to the Sussex Spaniel Club of America archives, catalog(s) from the National Specialty, September 9, 2022, the 2023 SSCA Calendar as well as the Canine Chronicles. The file also contains the Gazette columns from the President of the Club, Marcia Duegan.

Last year I was given, by a past Member, a three ring scrap book of Sussex Spaniels documents that contains over 40 years of newspaper and magazine clippings, show results/judging results, original typewriter typed standards, countless pictures of our beloved Sussex Spaniels. The Scrapbooker wanted the Club to enjoy all her years of compiling this very entertaining, informative and priceless piece of work.

Always remember, before you throw it away, contact the archive committee, we may think it's Archive worthy.

Awards:

The awards committee (consisting of Kim Kesselring, Barbara Ohmann, Georgia Perdue and Brenda Griffin) has made great strides in updating the format of the awards and as of this year will be caught up with awards distribution. Going forward, our plan is to begin to proactively gather awards data in the first quarter. Also, we plan to communicate to the membership the awards opportunities that they can again contribute to.

Submitted by
Kim Kesselring

Rescue:

The SSCA Rescue Committee rescued and placed fifteen Sussex Spaniels (from a puppy mill auction house) beginning October 2022 to May 2023. In May 2023 it came to the SSCA Rescue Committee's attention that there were eight additional Sussex Spaniel puppies listed for auction. At that time, the SSCA Board recognized that a private and separate rescue should be formed. With an initial monetary contribution from SSCA, SASS (Save All Sussex Spaniels) was formed and was able to obtain the eighth puppies. All rescued Sussex Spaniels (twenty three total) were placed in good homes, under spay/neuter contracts, after extensive interviews with prospective adopters and are thriving. SSCA Rescue will continue to help any Sussex Spaniel in need according to the by-laws.

Submitted by
Kim Kesselring

From: Graciano Tarrago tarrago@verizon.net
Subject: 2023 Store Report
Date: September 27, 2023 at 7:46 AM
To: Lee S. Silensky silensky@comcast.net
Cc: Linda Reda lreda@mail.usf.edu

Hello Lee,
Please see below our 2023 store report.

Sussex Spaniel Club of America on-line Store earnings report for our Board Members.

The store had a total profit of \$1,500.00 from September 2022 - September 2023

The breakdown is as follows:

Profits earned:

SSCA National show in the PNW,
\$ 345.00

The SSCA 2023 Calendar Sales,
\$ 1,155.00

Total Profit, \$1,500.00.

We will be adding new product to the SSCA online store in the next calendar year, stay tuned.

Best,
Eileen

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

Website Committee Report 2023

Early in 2023 our Website designer moved on from the SSCA Website. We procured a new Website designer and he totally rebuilt the website. It looks similar but we fixed the many errors that were on the old version and now everything works properly. The new rebuilt website was launched in late August 2023.

We added online membership renewal and a method of payment to make the renewal process easier and quicker. This will save the Membership Committee Chair a lot of time and will save the club money in postage and printing and supplies. We will still honor any requests for mail in renewals and checks posted by mail service.

As part of this process, we found out that our non profit status had lapsed,. This would not allow us to get a method of payment installed as we needed. We went to work and got our 501c7 reinstated.

In conjunction with the website we now have online voting. This will save our Secretary hours of having to stuff ballots and send them out in the mail. This will save the club a lot of money too. We will still honor any requests for a paper mail in ballots for anyone choosing that method.

We purchased a new photo gallery plugin that is smooth to maneuver and is beautiful in functionality.

The Members Only Area will be completed in late October 2023 and invitations will be sent out to all members to login and input their personal information and their unique password for future entry. Even if you accessed the Members Only Area before, as it has been rebuilt you will have to do it again. We tried to make access easy.

The SSCA Website is now completed in the vision we had hoped for. The visions for it was to be informative, educational, fun and beautiful. There is room for growth and additions as we used the Wordpress format. We will continue to post upcoming events and information and new pictures on the website, so please check back often.

Respectfully submitted by

Lee Silensky

Heart of Ohio Sussex Spaniel Club: Annual Report
July 2022 – July 2023

The past year has been a time of re-organization and growth for HOSSC. Our club weathered some difficult and sad circumstances during the past few years. The loss of two of our longtime club members, Debbi Miller and Lori Colwell, who were both instrumental in the club's leadership, was very difficult. And, as it did for all dog clubs, the pandemic presented numerous challenges for our club's functions and events.

We were delighted to honor Debbi and Lori by dedicating both our 2022 and 2023 regional specialty shows to their memory. We will remain forever grateful for their service and vision for our club. At the 2022 HOSSC Specialty in Wauseon Ohio, a special memorial service was held to celebrate their lives and recognize their contributions to HOSSC.

Our present officers and board members include:

- President: Beth Launder
- Vice President: Judy Opel
- Secretary: Brenda Griffin
- Treasurer: Rusty Morton
- Directors at large: Tom Launder, Mary Jo Marsh, Alda Morris

We currently have 45 members, and 11 new member applications are in process.

This year our regional specialty was held in Madison, Ohio on July 15 in conjunction with the Ashtabula and Grand River Kennel Club cluster of shows. Our show chair, Judy Manley, and her committee did an outstanding job. We had a total of 26 entries in the specialty with 4 in veteran sweepstakes plus 2 beginner puppies. A welcome party, puppy, gala, and dinner were all part of the hospitality offered during the weekend. Attached is a document with some photos of the event!

The 2024 specialty will be held in Wauseon Ohio on Friday October 4 in conjunction with the Fulton County Kennel Club dog shows, which will be on Saturday and Sunday, October 5 and 6. Judy Manley will once again serve as our show chair for this event.

Club plans for 2024 also include updating our website and updating our bylaws to reflect that most meetings are now held virtually. We are also in the process of catching up with our awards program, which was suspended during the pandemic. We are very excited about the growth of our membership and are really looking forward to the year ahead. We remain grateful to SSCA for their continued support of our regional club!

Brenda Griffin
HOSSC Secretary

AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB RULES & REGULATIONS GOVERN THESE EVENTS
Events 2023635701, 2023635702, 2023635704, 2023635705, 2023635706



AMERICAN
KENNEL CLUB

CERTIFICATION

Permission has been granted by the American Kennel Club for the holding of this event under the American Kennel Club rules and regulations
Gina M. Dinardo, Executive Secretary

CATALOG
Pacific Northwest
Sussex Spaniel Club, Inc.
Specialty



Three Conformation Events on Saturday, September 09, 2023

Two All Breed Rally Trials on Saturday, September 09, 2023

Licensed by the American Kennel Club

The Olympia Hotel at Capitol Lake

2300 Evergreen Park Drive Olympia, WA 98502

Show Hours: 7:00 am – 7:00 pm

CONFORMATION AND RALLY WILL BE HELD INDOORS-UNBENCHED

Sussex Spaniel will be judged on a ramp

SHOW SECRETARY'S CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify to the corrections of the within marked awards and absentees as taken from the judges books.

SHOW SECRETARY

OFFICE HOURS

M-F: 8:00 - 6:00 PST

Close - Saturday & Sunday



PATRICIA SHAW

SPECIALTY SHOW SECRETARY

PO Box 35 Burley, WA 98322-0035

<https://www.patriciashawsss.com> Email: secretary@patriciashawsss.com

Cell: 360-731-7855

OFFICERS

President Patricia Shaw
Vice President..... Holly Pierog
Secretary Charlotte Byford
2915 BEACH DR E , PORT ORCHARD, WA , 98366-8132

BOARD OF DIRECTOR

Frances Rozyskie

Event Committees - Members of the PNWSSC

Show Chairman & Obedience Chairman Holly Pierog
9360 Branded Rd. Kingman AZ 86401 C-360-932-4300 segwickbas-
sets@aol.com
Ring Steward Charlotte Byford
Judges Hospitality & Gifts Holly Pierog

JUDGES

Mrs. Honey Anne Glendinning [6773] Conformation, Event #2023635701
170 Blackfoot Court West, Lethbridge, AB T1K 7W1 Canada
Mr. Lewis W. Bayne [0106] Conformation Event #2023635702
1360 N. Locust St Canby, OR 97013-3153
Ms. Patricia Anne Keenan [5357] Conformation, Event#2023635704
3080 Jackson Hwy B, Chehalis, WA 98532-7701
Dr. Ronnie Sue Leith [90304] Rally Trials 2023635705 & 06
291 Mount Constance Way, Port Ludlow, WA 98365

veterinarian

Olympia Pet Emergency - 24/7 Emergency Veterinarian
3011 Pacific Ave SE, Olympia, WA 98501 360-455-5155

JUDGES EDUCATION

There will be a Judges Seminar and hands on Oct. 13 before National judging with a hands on after judging. This is listed on the Website and also on the AKC Seminar page. The new passage of the change on tails (stating that tails may be docked or undocked) will be addressed .

We will also have a Judges Seminar at the AKC Invitational in Orlando in Dec. The latest count for sign ups for that is 28, as of Aug. 1 so there may be as many as the 52 we had 5 years ago.

Respectfully submitted,
Marcia Deugan

SUSSEX SPANIEL GAZETTE ARTICLE DUE JAN. 2023

Personality in the Sussex Spaniel runs the gamete between one that knows from the very beginning that he (or more likely she) owns the house and everything in it including you, and one that is what we call a “velcro dog”, one that follows you everywhere. I always tell new puppy owners that they will never go to the bathroom alone again. At least you know where a velcro dog is, always. The “this is my house” dog is the one that if there is silence, there is a Sussex getting into something somewhere that they shouldn't be.

People always ask why they look so sad – they aren't really sad – we explain, they just have a sad look with their sweet face and soft eyes. Sussex love beds, sofas, chairs on which they can perch and look out windows.

This same dog, however, can turn into a whirling dervish when someone knocks on the door or rings the doorbell! With several Sussex in residence, there is always a mad dash to the door and lots of barking! Outside they would be crashing through heavy underbrush as they were bred to do, but inside, rugs, toys and other portable items are carried along to the door since a live or recently dead bird isn't currently available.

Yes, Sussex can be noisy. It is good to leave a TV or radio on when you leave them alone. Once one starts in the rest will join and a Sussex chorus of howling will continue to a point only known by the chorus when everyone stops at once – like the sound has been turned off.

Of course, this won't bother people who have coonhounds or some of the terrier breeds, but don't get a Sussex if you want a quiet little dog.

Sussex are a personality plus dog. They love their people, walks, action, ball chasing, etc. They can be great with swimming, chasing, hunting as long as it also involves you being right there to

cheer them on. They will be great pals in the kitchen when you are cooking, watching television, and cuddling in your bed. Basically, they want to be wherever you are.

This is why they can be a good show dog or companion.

So don't believe the stories you read about Sussex being slow and sedate, couch potato dogs . The reason you see so many Sussex on social media curled up on a dog bed or on a couch or two or more sound asleep on top of each other is because it is hard to take a photo of a moving Sussex and so much moving wears them out anyway!

Baby puppies, of course, can't be exercised without damaging their bones and growth plates, but once they get to be 8 or 9 months old they will tell you how much exercise and fun things they can do!

Sussex are special and their owners need to be special too!

On a side note – abbreviations - Sussex are sometimes called LBGs which stands for “little brown dogs” which is wrong because they are Golden Liver, not brown. They used to be called LBJs short for little brown jobs , but few of us remember that time and younger people don't like the 'J' part. Other abbreviations that AKC was first with – CD used to only mean a Companion Dog title and AI only stood for Artificial Insemination. Simpler times .

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

Sussex Spaniel Gazette column due April 2023

After last year's severe lack of puppies (only 14 born in 2022) in the US, it was almost a miracle that after 3 other people had small litters in Jan. , that I had a bonanza of puppies.

It started on Feb. 7, when Xpresso , almost 5 years old and failed to “take” on several occasions, not only became pregnant with her first litter, but presented me with 5 puppies – 2 boys and 3 girls! She had a normal litter, normal delivery , it was wonderful!

I really had not expected her to get pregnant, since we had tried and tried. So I had gone ahead and bred another bitch, Zing, for her first litter at 3 years old. She had failed to conceive once.

Three days later, on Feb. 10, things happened. Her litter started quietly. She was asleep when I went out to walk the two old girls and I wasn't gone more than 7 minutes. When I came in, I checked on her immediately and she had 2 puppies! One still in the sac. Got it out and got them both breathing – a boy and a girl. Zing was as surprised as I was! That was at 10:30. I wrote it down and took a deep breath thinking that I would have some time before anything else happened ----- but no! At 10:40 she had another boy! I was amazed! At 10:47 she had another girl!

In over 50 years of breeding Sussex I had never had a litter

come so fast! At 11:15 she had another boy – breech, but fine. At 11:45 she had another boy! So – in one hour and fifteen minutes she had 6 healthy puppies!

This just goes to show that you never know with Sussex. They can be astounding. It teaches us to never give up – if they don't get pregnant try try again. Prepare for any thing.

All the puppies from both litters survived and are thriving and will soon be going to their new homes.

The SSCA 2023 National Specialty will be on Oct. 13 near Nashville, TN . Check our Website at [Sussex Spaniel Club of America](#) for more information.

Marcia Deugan
26400 Morton Ave.
Bonita Springs, FL
34135

ZIYADAHreg@aol.com
239-947-2426

GAZETTE COLUMN DUE JULY 2023

SUSSEX SPANIEL

This has definitely been a re-bound year! Last year's very small number of puppies born was disturbing. This year we are about back to normal with 36 puppies born in the first 6 months!

There is probably no sweeter experience for a breeder than to see their puppies thrive and to get photos of how well the ones they have sold are growing, thriving, and enjoying their new homes and families.

Puppy classes of babies should be full this autumn, including our National Specialty in TN in October. Such fun for owners and hopefully judges with a sense of humor!

It is amazing for people , with no history of raising Sussex puppies, to see how they change from cute little teddy-bear puppies to little monsters with really sharp teeth that poke holes in arms and ankles as well as pant legs and other non-toy items. About the same time, they start growing in unexpected ways – front legs – hind legs often not in synce. Heads and muzzles change and soon after, top and bottom jaws are seen to grow at different rates causing “bite” to change and change again. A hint – the bottom jaw seems to always grow last.

Patience is needed here. At about a year growth will generally have leveled out and then it is a process of

“filling out” - gaining weight and muscle – which may last a few more years (yes, years) slow growing Sussex need to not have stress on bones at this time as growth plates don't close until a couple of years of age.

Looking at many photos lately of both adults and puppies, we are seeing a problem with some tail sets. The Standard calls for a “tail set low” and many tails seem to be set either level with the back or even set high – tending upward. Both of these are incorrect. This just proves that when we concentrate on one thing, like getting puppies, that something else can slip by. Handlers aren't helping with showing dogs with the tail cranked upwards – which can hide a poor tail set. Judges should be aware.

Marcia Deugan
ZIYADAHreg@aol.com

239-947-2426

GAZETTE COLUMN DUE OCT. 2023

Change -

There has been a change in the Standard for our breed. While judging undocked tails was previously addressed in a separate document, now it is official – tails are allowed to be either docked or undocked. This will officially take effect on Jan. 1, 2024.

Judges and others please take note, tail SET remains the same, set low, not carried above the level of the back.

The undocked tails we are seeing at present vary as to length, some being not too much longer than a long docked tail, as it has always been difficult to closely predict adult tail length. Some undocked dogs are shown with a great deal of feathering on the entire tail, while others show very little or none. Exhibitors sometimes hold the tail out to the total length while others grasp the tail half way and let the last few inches hang down. This may have something to do with the length of the dog (remember long, low, and level) and the length of the exhibitors arms.

In any case, showing style aside, any length tail is now acceptable for undocked dogs in our Standard, while tails on docked dogs remain at a recommended 5 to 7 inches.

2023 has been a banner year for Sussex puppies! A new litter of 8 has just been born bringing the total so far for the year to almost 50 – a huge number for this breed!

Congratulations to the breeders who have done such an outstanding job! As a club we are responsible for protecting and promoting the breed and it is much easier to promote a breed when we have puppies!

Marcia Deugan
ZIYADAHreg@aol.com

From: Marcia Deugan ziyadahreg@aol.com
Subject: Public Education report
Date: September 20, 2023 at 4:26 PM
To: Lee S. Silensky silensky@comcast.net

Since AKC is doing random Meet The Breeds around the country and no members have been able to participate due to lack of dogs available, location, etc. there is no report.

It was much better for this club and other small numbered clubs when the Meet The Breeds were at Orlando at the AKC Invitational and in NYC.

Respectfully submitted,
Marcia Deugan

From: Marcia Deugan ziyadahreg@aol.com
Subject: Health Committee report
Date: Sep 20, 2023 at 4:22:14 PM
To: Lee S. Silensky silensky@comcast.net

Not much to say on the health front - after so many people speaking up about their ideas on getting puppies, pregnancy, breeding, testing , etc. at the WA National, it was asked that people send their ideas to Bobby and to me and also that we try to establish a list of people having puppies, failed pregnancies, things they have tried that worked, things that they tried and that failed, and a list of every puppy born. Perhaps Bobby has had some feedback. I have not.

Respectfully submitted,
Marcia Deugan

Sussex Spaniel Club of America, Inc.

Finance Report

1 January – 10 October 2023

Greetings,

This report is submitted electronically because I will not be present for the Club's Annual General Meeting.

I began performing Club Treasurer duties January 1 of this year. This year has been challenging from a fiscal accounting perspective because the club was not keeping accounting records in any detail. There were no financial statements available and no budgeting process in place for the Club. I did not have Committee budgets and they have yet to be submitted after several requests. This is in spite of our Standing Rules that state as follows:

Committees

Individual committee budgets will be developed annually with final approval granted by the Board of Directors. Unless special funds were procured for a committee, at the end of the Club's Fiscal Year, all non-expensed funds will be returned to the General Fund. The Treasurer is responsible for tracking committee budgets and their expenditures.

I have prepared committee expenditure reports instead, and those follow after the Financial Statements.

The SSCA tax-exempt status had lapsed in 2019 because documents had not been filed with the IRS. We discovered the last record of submitted tax documents was in 2016, because officers were not aware of their requirement to be filed.

I am happy to report our tax-exempt status was restored in June 2023 with the professional assistance of a tax advisor. However, for our tax-exempt status to remain current, we are asking members to pay their dues prior to December 31, 2023. The IRS requires tax-exempt organizations like ours to limit NONMEMBER revenue to 35% of gross receipts. We are now over that limit because of our receipt of excess revenue from puppy rescue donations. I informed the board leadership of this requirement on February 5, 2023. I have ascertained if most members pay their dues before December 31, 2023, our finances will be in compliance with the IRS tax-exempt rules and the Club's tax-exempt status will not be in jeopardy.

REMINDER: Dues and/or donations to the Club ARE NOT tax deductible by members. This is because the Club is not a charitable organization, but instead is a social or recreational and non-profitable one as designated by the IRS' 501(c)(7) section of the Internal Revenue Code.

For your convenience, we have added ways to pay dues/donations. The Club has a credit card payment terminal, as well as **Zelle** availability. Neither of these services cost the club and monies are deposited directly into the Club's bank account. The credit card payment system does charge a credit card convenience/processing fee of between 1.5 – 3.5 % based on the card used. *The following are payment methods available:*

- Send money instantly from your banking institute to the Club's bank account using Zelle to jmt1929@yahoo.com ensure to place a note identifying funds, i.e. dues, awards, general fund, etc.
- Call the Treasurer directly @540.784.3404 and make a real time credit card payment
- Or mail your check payable to **Sussex Spaniel Club of America** to:
Marcus Thomas, 3606 Plank Road, Natural Bridge, VA 24578
- Dues/donation payments will be available through the website; however, are not currently available

The first two mentioned methods alleviate the need for writing checks, mailing letters, and paying postage. Fast, free (except the credit card convenience/processing fee), and completely safe.

The following Club financial statements are prepared and provided by the Treasurer:

Sussex Spaniel Club of America, Inc.

Financial Statement 1 January – 31 March 2023

Balance Sheet as of March 31, 2023

ASSETS

Cash	
<i>General Fund</i>	\$52,152.87
<i>National Specialty</i>	\$ 1,214.00
<i>Judge's Education</i>	\$ 181.00
<i>Health</i>	<u>\$ 352.50</u>
TOTAL CASH	\$53,900.37

Accounts Receivable -

Property	
<i>Illustrated Standard Drawings</i>	\$ 4,200.00
<i>Projector</i>	<u>\$ 800.00</u>
TOTAL PROPERTY	\$ 5,000.00

TOTAL ASSETS \$58,900.37

LIABILITIES

Accounts Payable	
<i>Rescue Spay/Neuter</i>	\$1,600.00
<i>Legal Fees 501(c)(7)</i>	<u>\$2,100.00</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$3,700.00

EQUITY

Beginning Balance	\$51,050.32
First QTR Contribution	<u>\$ 7,850.05</u>
TOTAL EQUITY	\$55,200.37

TOTAL LIABILITIES
AND CLUB EQUITY \$58,900.37

Statement of Revenues and Expenses for 1 January – 31 March, 2023

REVENUES

Membership Dues	\$ 2,800.00
Membership Donations	\$ 3,250.00
Nonmember Donations	\$ 5,200.00
Dividend Interest	<u>\$ 32.02</u>

TOTAL REVENUES \$11,282.02

EXPENSES

Office Supplies	\$ 183.76
Administrative Fees	\$ 6.50
Postage & Delivery	\$ 12.75
Business Filing	\$ 7.00
Website	\$ 536.51
2023 National Specialty	\$ 30.00
Donations	
<i>HOSSC</i>	\$ 250.00
<i>ASC</i>	\$ 250.00
Rescue	<u>\$ 2,155.45</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	<u>\$ 3,431.97</u>

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN
REVENUE AND EXPENSES \$ 7,850.05

Financial Statement 1 April – 30 June 2023

Balance Sheet as of June 30, 2023

ASSETS

Cash	
<i>General Fund</i>	\$52,028.59
<i>National Specialty</i>	\$ 1,702.00
<i>Judge's Education</i>	\$ 181.00
<i>Health</i>	\$ <u>352.50</u>
TOTAL CASH	\$54,264.09

Accounts Receivable -

Property	
<i>Illustrated Standard Drawings</i>	\$ 4,200.00
<i>Projector</i>	\$ <u>800.00</u>
TOTAL PROPERTY	\$ 5,000.00

TOTAL ASSETS \$59,264.09

LIABILITIES

Accounts Payable	
<i>Rescue Spay/Neuter</i>	\$2,000.00
<i>8 Rescue Puppies</i>	\$1,850.00
<i>2023 NS Trophies**</i>	\$ 867.00
<i>Website Upgrade 50%</i>	\$ 512.33
<i>Electronic Simply Voting</i>	\$ 334.00
<i>Membership Directory**</i>	\$ <u>537.66</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$6,100.99

** doesn't include shipping costs

EQUITY

Beginning Balance	\$58,900.37
Second QTR Contribution	\$ <u>377.82</u>
TOTAL EQUITY	\$53,177.20

TOTAL LIABILITIES
AND CLUB EQUITY \$59,264.09

Statement of Revenues and Expenses For 1 April – 30 June, 2023

REVENUES

Membership Dues	\$ 1,275.00
Membership Donations	\$ 2,494.85
2023 NS Trophy Donations	\$ 1,410.00
Nonmember Donations	\$ 3,000.00
Rescue Raffle Donations	\$ 300.00
Amazon.com Acct Verification	\$.01
Dividend Interest	39.80

TOTAL REVENUES \$ 8,805.56

EXPENSES

Postage & Delivery	\$ 13.64
2023 National Specialty	
<i>Trophies</i>	\$ 867.00
<i>BPUP Fee</i>	\$ 25.00
Rescue	
<i>3 Dogs</i>	\$ 1,850.00
<i>Transportation</i>	\$ 2,500.00
<i>Spay/Neuter Contract</i>	\$ 200.00
<i>Supplies (food)</i>	\$ 73.85
501(c)(7) Legal/IRS Fees	\$ 2,100.00
Website Upgrade (50%)	\$ 512.33
CC Processing Fee	\$.02
Take the Lead - Trotter Donation	\$ 50.00
PNWSSC Support	\$ <u>250.00</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ <u>8,441.84</u>

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN
REVENUE AND EXPENSES \$ 377.82

Financial Statement 1 July – 31 September 2023

Balance Sheet as of September 31, 2023

ASSETS

Cash	
<i>General Fund</i>	\$45,926.58
<i>Judges Education</i>	\$ 181.00
<i>Health</i>	<u>\$ 352.50</u>
TOTAL CASH	\$46,460.08

Accounts Receivable -

Property	
<i>Illustrated Standard Drawings</i>	\$ 4,200.00
<i>Projector</i>	<u>\$ 800.00</u>
TOTAL PROPERTY	\$ 5,000.00

TOTAL ASSETS \$51,460.08

LIABILITIES

Accounts Payable	
Rescue Spay/Neuter	\$1,600.00
2023 NS Judges Expenses [^]	\$ 400.00
2023 NS Ribbons ^{**}	\$ 450.00
2023 NS Banquet [^]	\$1,250.00
AA - Website Upgrade 2 nd 50%	\$ 512.33
AA - Website Hosting 4 th Qtr	\$ 224.85
MD Sporting Dog Support	\$ 250.00
21/22 Awards Hodges	\$ 573.76
AKC Dues	<u>\$ 25.00</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$5,285.94

AA = Abacus Arts ** doesn't include S&H ^estimate

EQUITY

Beginning Balance	\$59,278.19
Third QTR Contribution	<u>\$ (7,818.11)</u>
TOTAL EQUITY	\$46,174.14

TOTAL LIABILITIES
AND CLUB EQUITY \$51,460.08

Statement of Revenues and Expenses For 1 July – 31 September, 2023

REVENUES

Member Donation - Trophy	\$ 140.00
New Member Dues	\$ 45.00
Membership Dues 2024	\$ 70.00
Member Donation - Awards	\$ 67.62
Illustrated Standard Royalty	\$ 44.18
Withdrawal Adjustment Credit	\$ 250.00
ASC Foy Trent Entry Earnings	\$ 214.05
Dividend Interest	43.28

TOTAL REVENUES \$ 874.13

EXPENSES

8 Rescue Puppies	\$ 1,850.00
Spay/Neuter Contract	\$ 200.00
Abacus Arts - Website Hosting 3qtr	\$ 224.85
Abacus Arts - Photo plugin/software	\$ 582.00
Membership Directory +S&H	\$ 826.06
Simply Voting 1-yr contract	\$ 334.00
ASC Specialty Judges Gifts	\$ 50.00
Stripe Card Reader	\$ 78.84
21/22 Awards - Rapid Rainbow	\$ 809.50
AKC Medallion Support	\$ 170.00
Postage - Scentinel Drive	\$ 12.45
QBS Plaques - BIS update	\$ 583.25
23 NS - Welcome bags/totes	\$ 305.92
23 NS - Greek Corner T's	\$ 878.91
23 NS - OBX Trophies	\$ 240.00
23 NS - Dwysan Designs Trophies	\$ 617.00
23 NS - Dwysan Designs Shipping	\$ 170.00
23 NS - ElissaJane 50% Trophies	\$ 545.00
Mbrship/Website Chair Reimbursement	<u>\$ 214.46</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	<u>\$ 8,692.24</u>

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN REVENUE AND EXPENSES \$ (7,818.11)

Club Bank Account balances:

As of 01/01/2022:		As of 01/01/2023		As of 10/8/2023:	
Checking	\$ 17,891.39	Checking	\$ 14,715.89	Checking	\$ 3,015.55
Savings	\$ 41,266.95	Savings	\$ 46,850.32	Savings	\$ 42,948.03
	\$ 59,158.14		\$46,850.32		\$ 45,963.58

For the year 2022:

Total income:	\$ 14,868.45
Total expenses:	\$ 27,976.27
Net surplus or (deficit):	\$(13,107.82)

For the year 2023 (as of 10/1/2023):

Total income:	\$ 20,961.71
Total expenses:	\$ 20,566.05
Net surplus or (deficit):	\$ 395.66
with Accounts Payable:	\$ 5,284.95
with Accounts Receivable**:	\$ 3,000.00 (assumption after National Specialty)
**calculations don't include 2024 dues/donations	

The following Committee Expenditure Reports are prepared and provided by the Treasurer and verified by Committee Chairs:

Sussex Spaniel Club of America, Inc. 2023 Website Committee Expenditure Report as of 10/8/2023		
Domain renewal	\$ 24.85	
Hostgator shared hosting	\$ 227.88	
Hostgator sitelock & codeguard	\$ 131.83	
Wix.com	\$ 144.00	
Abacus Arts - website upgrade contract 50% initial fee	\$ 512.33	begin new contract
Abacus Arts - website hosting 3rd Qtr (\$74.95/month)	\$ 224.85	
Abacus Arts - website 1-yr software license	\$ 397.00	
Abacus Arts - website 1-time license photo plug-in	\$ 150.00	
Abacus Arts - website 1-yr domain renewal (next Jan 2026)	\$ 35.00	
Abacus Arts - website enhanced email 4th Qtr (\$4/month)	\$ 12.00	
Abacus Arts - website hosting 4th Qtr (\$74.95/month)	\$ 224.85	
Abacus Arts - website upgrade contract 50% final fee	\$ 512.33	
Abacus Arts - website costs above and beyond contract		unknown
	\$ 2,596.92	
GREEN = PAID to date BLACK = Accounts Payable		

Sussex Spaniel Club of America, Inc.
2021/2022 Awards Committee Expenditure Report
as of 10/8/2023

		OUTLAY
Rapid Rainbow Designs (pins)		\$ 809.50
AKC Medallions National Championship		\$ 170.00
Hodges Awards - Kim Kesselring Reimbursement		\$ 573.76
Folders, Certificates, etc.		\$ 36.87
Shadow Box	6/Yr @\$14 ea	\$ 84.00 donated
Rosettes	6/Yr @\$25 ea	\$ 150.00 donated
Engraving		\$ 25.00 estimate
		\$ 1,849.13

GREEN = PAID

These numbers reflect two (2) years (2021 & 2022) worth of awards expenditures. Further, bulk orders were ordered to decrease merchandise cost. As a result, next year's awards expenditures will be less due to surplus.

Sussex Spaniel Club of America, Inc .
2023 National Specialty Expenditure Report
as of 10/7/2023

DATE	TO	PURPOSE	NOTES	PAYMENT METHOD	AMOUNT
2/19/2023	AKC	Obedience Processing Fee	Marcia paid w/debit	debit card 0006	\$ 15.00
2/19/2023	AKC	Rally Processing Fee	Marcia paid w/debit	debit card 0006	\$ 15.00
4/23/2023	ElisaJane (Judie Cronin)	50% Luggage Tags	\$250 remains + shipping	debit card 1453	\$ 250.00
5/8/2023	Dwysan Designs, LLC	50% Trophies	\$617 remains + shipping	check #2557	\$ 617.00
6/13/2023	Sue Caniff - AKC	BPUP Fee	Sue paid w/personal credit card	check #2561	\$ 25.00
7/24/2023	Sue Caniff - Greek Corner	Welcome Bags/Totes	Sue paid w/personal credit card	zelle payment	\$ 305.92
7/24/2023	OBX Metalworks	Concurrent Trophies	PayPal invoice	debit card 1453	\$ 240.00
8/14/2023	Dwysan Designs, LLC	Remaining 50% Trophies		check #2571	\$ 617.00
8/22/2023	ElisaJane (Judie Cronin)	Remaining 50% Trophies	Shipping included	debit card 1453	\$ 295.00
9/7/2023	Greek Corner	T-shirt order		debit card 0006	\$ 853.34
9/15/2023	Dwysan Designs, LLC	Trophy Shipping & Handling		debit card 0006	\$ 170.00
10/4/2023	Eileen Tarrago	Misc Expense Reimbursement	set-up, bags, goods, etc.	zelle payment	\$ 438.73
10/4/2023	Sue Caniff	Postage Reimbursement	t-shirts and bags to mbrs	zelle payment	\$ 22.65

TOTAL expenses PAID TO DATE

\$ 3,864.64

<u>Projected Accounts Payable</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>NOTES</u>
Banquet Dinner	\$788.00	\$15.76 P/P RATE (50 total) will pay via debit card on 10/12/23
Callisto Ribbons	\$450	estimate based on 2022 NS + shipping INVOICE AFTER NS
Judge's Fees	\$400	personal expenses only INVOICE IMMEDIATELY AFTER SHOW
Superintendent Fees	none anticipated	calculation of entries reveals refund will be due to Club
Pending Estimated Known EXPENSES	\$1,638	

Payments to be collected by Show Chair and packaged to be delivered to SSCA Treasurer at the end of the shows.
Breakdown of accounting requested. Income and Expenses to be reconciled after completion of National Specialty.

Sussex Spaniel Club of America, Inc.					
Rescue Committee Expenditure Report <small>as of 10/8/2023</small>					
INCOME (Donations)			OUTLAY (Expenses)		
11/14/2022	\$ 250.00		11/14/2022	transportation	\$ 566.72
12/10/2022	\$ 1,000.00		11/29/2022	transportation	\$ 680.79
12/15/2022	\$ 1,000.00		12/6/2022	vet/supplies	\$ 917.15
12/15/2022	\$ 1,000.00		12/6/2022	transportation	\$ 2,502.20
12/20/2022	\$ 1,000.00		12/8/2022	12 puppies	\$ 12,082.17
12/31/2022	\$ 500.00		12/20/2022	vet/supplies	\$ 706.20
1/2/2023	\$ 400.00		12/28/2022	transportation	\$ 81.36
1/2/2023	\$ 100.00		2/6/2023	vet/supplies	\$ 332.81
1/4/2023	\$ 500.00		3/8/2023	vet/supplies	\$ 151.70
1/5/2023	\$ 500.00		3/21/2023	transportation	\$ 1,500.00
1/7/2023	\$ 500.00		3/27/2023	vet/supplies	\$ 170.94
1/8/2023	\$ 500.00		4/12/2023	2 puppies	\$ 960.00
1/12/2023	\$ 800.00		4/17/2023	1 dog	\$ 955.00
1/13/2023	\$ 1,000.00		5/9/2023	transportation	\$ 1,000.00
3/4/2023	\$ 1,000.00		5/25/2023	transportation	\$ 1,000.00
4/24/2023	\$ 1,000.00		5/26/2023	transportation	\$ 500.00
5/6/2023	\$ 1,000.00		6/6/2023	spay refund	\$ 200.00
6/7/2023	\$ 1,000.00		6/7/2023	puppy food	\$ 73.85
TOTAL donations	\$ 13,050.00		7/12/2023	8-puppies	\$ 1,850.00
			7/20/2023	spay refund	\$ 200.00
			TOTAL expenses		\$ 26,430.89
			<i>Accounts Payable - spay/neuter contract (r=8 x \$200) **SEE NOTE</i>		\$ 1,800.00
			TOTAL payout after accounts payable		\$ 28,230.89
			TOTAL Deficit		
			<i>as of 10/8/2023 after accounts payable</i>		
					(\$15,180.89)
RESCUE COUNT (15 total)					
2 first transfer	\$ 250.00				
12 donations (\$1000 ea)	\$ 12,000.00				
1 donation (\$800 ea)	\$ 800.00				
	\$ 13,050.00				
CONTRACTED to spay/neuter					
5 SPAYED first 2 exempt 8 REMAIN					

****NOTE:** Paige Everhart sent neuter certificate. Doesn't wish \$200 rebate/discount fee.
 Jeanna Kozak sent spay certificate. Doesn't wish \$200 rebate/discount fee.

The Membership Committee had an expenditure of \$836.08 in 2023 for the directory printing and shipping.

No other committees had invoiced expenditures as of the date of this report.

Please don't hesitate to contact me should there be questions or comments. Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your Treasurer.

Respectfully submitted,

John Marcus Thomas
 SSCA Treasurer

Delegate's Report 2023

September 2022 Meeting

The September 2022 meeting of the AKC Delegates was held On September 13, 2022 in Newark, New Jersey. In attendance at this meeting were 292 delegates.

In his President's report, Dennis Sprung mentioned that the "one-plus-one" rule change passed in 2019 had reduced the absentee rate where there was one class dog and one class bitch entered in a breed by 17% to 31%. In low entry breeds such as the Sussex Spaniel, the new rule reduced the absentee rate by 11% to 27%. The rule change also increased the number of low entry class dogs and bitches by an average of three per show which resulted in a cumulative increase of nearly \$200,00 for dog clubs that put on conformation events. Mr. Sprung also mentioned the rule change that allows Specialty Clubs to hold up to four designated Specialties in addition to independent or concurrent Specialties. A designated Specialty is one in which a Specialty Club considers the regular breed judging at an All-Breed or Group show as its Specialty show. Another rule change allows clubs and clusters to hold three conformation shows in one day if one of the three events is a Specialty show. Another earlier rule change allows a judge who is only judging NOHS groups or NOHS best-in-show to also exhibit in regular conformation classes at the same show.

Chief Financial Officer Ted Phillips gave the financial report. In the first six months of 2022, litter registrations increased by 2%, while individual registrations decreased by 9%. Of the litter registrations processed by the AKC, 83% are on line and 17% by mail. As of June 2022, the total assets of the AKC stood at \$236,000,000.

At this September meeting, the delegates voted on 14 separate amendments to *Charter and Bylaws of the American Kennel Club* and the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows*. The first vote was on an amendment to Article IV, Section 1, of the *Charter and Bylaws of The American Kennel Club*, which would add "Multi-Breed Clubs" back to the list of club types eligible for membership. A prior amendment from the floor to the original amendment removed multi-breed clubs and substituted All-Breed and Group Clubs. This change may have unintentionally excluded a category of clubs permitted to become members for many years, the multi-breed Retriever Field Trial Clubs. 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 IV, Section 1 now reads:

SECTION 1. *All All-Breed Clubs, Group Clubs, MultiBreed Clubs, or Associations which have held at least three Dog Shows, Obedience Trials, Field Trials, or Agility Trials in consecutive years under rules of the AKC and all Parent Specialty Clubs which have been or shall be formed for the improvement of any breed of purebred dogs shall be eligible to become members of the AKC.*

The second vote was on an amendment to Article VI, New Section 2, of the *Charter and Bylaws of The American Kennel Club*, to which the addition of this Section to Article VI would make clear that proxy voting is prohibited. The remaining sections of Article VI would be renumbered to 3-12. 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 VI, Section 2 now reads:

SECTION 2. *The use of proxy voting in any election or vote is prohibited.*

The third vote was on amendment to Article VII, Section 1, of the Article VII, Section 1, of the *Charter and Bylaws of The American Kennel Club*, to remove term limits for AKC Board members. This amendment was proposed by the Delegate Bylaws Committee and brought forward with AKC Board approval. Of the delegates voting, 171 voted in favor of the amendment and 98 voted against. The amendment failed for lack of a 2/3 majority.

The fourth vote was on an amendment to Article XVIII, Section 1, of the *Charter and Bylaws of The American Kennel Club*, which would remove the requirement that the December or January meeting be noticed two years in advance. 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. Section 1 now reads:

SECTION 1. *The annual meeting of the AKC shall be the regular meeting held in March. There shall also be regular meetings of the AKC in June and September. There shall be one regular meeting held in December or January. The exact date, time and location of all meetings shall be determined by the Board of Directors.*

The fifth vote of the meeting was on an amendment to Article XX, Section 6, of the *Charter and Bylaws of The American Kennel Club*, clarifies that the referenced article is Article XX and not Article XVIII 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. Section 6 now reads:

SECTION 6. *Unless otherwise specified in this Article all proposed amendments, demands, recommendations, and other writings hereunder shall be filed with the Executive Secretary.*

The six vote of the meeting was on an amendment to Chapter 9, Section 3, of the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows – Superintendents and Show Secretaries*, which would delete Chapter 9, Section 3 and insert into the associated proposed amendment to Chapter 8. It has the effect of relocating content pertaining to the arranging of the Show Veterinarian from Chapter 9 which is specific to Superintendents and Show Secretaries into the more appropriate Chapter 8. Sections 4-12 of Chapter 9 would be renumbered. 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 8 now reads:

CHAPTER 8 - SELECTION OF SUPERINTENDENT, SHOW SECRETARY AND VETERINARIANS

Prior to receiving permission to hold a dog show, obedience trial or tracking test, the club must submit the name, complete address, and daytime telephone number of the Superintendent or Show Secretary and Veterinarian contracted by the club to service the event.

The seventh vote of the meeting was on an amendment to Chapter 10, Section 2, of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows – (Duties and Responsibilities of) Show Veterinarians, deletes verbiage related to duty of the club which is proposed to be inserted into Chapter 8 in a corresponding recommendation. It replaces “On call” veterinarian with Show Veterinarian clarifying that whether in-attendance or on-call, the Show Veterinarian must be available to treat dogs during show hours. This amendment was proposed by the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee and brought forward with approval by the AKC Board of Directors. Fewer than two-thirds of the delegates voted in the affirmative and the amendment failed.

The eighth vote of the meeting was on an amendment to Chapter 9, Section 5, of *the Rules Applying to Dog Shows – Superintendents and Show Secretaries*, which would renumber the section based on corresponding proposal to delete Chapter 9, Section 3. It also would amend the section requiring a form to be provided whether the Show Veterinarian is in-attendance or on-call. It would modify language from obligating the superintendent or show secretary to ensure the dog is taken to the veterinarian to informing the owner or agent of the requirement for the dog to be examined. It would replace Veterinarian Headquarters with Show Veterinarian for consistency. This amendment was proposed by the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee and brought forward with approval by the AKC Board of Directors. Two-thirds of the delegates voted in the affirmative and the amendment passed. Chapter 9, Section 4 now reads:

SECTION 4. *Superintendents and Show Secretaries shall be prepared, at any show with a show veterinarian in attendance, to furnish the forms to be used by an exhibitor or handler who seeks a health examination of a dog. Upon the filing of the completed form, it shall be the superintendent's and show secretary's duty to inform the owner or agent of the dog of the requirement that the dog be taken to the Show Veterinarian for the examination.*

The tenth vote was on an amendment to Chapter 10, of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows – Duties and Responsibilities of Show Veterinarians. The amendment would rename Chapter from “Duties and Responsibilities of Show Veterinarians” to “Show Veterinarians. This amendment was proposed by the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee and brought forward with approval by the AKC Board of Directors. Two-thirds of the delegates voted in the affirmative and the amendment passed. The heading to Chapter 10 now reads:

CHAPTER 10 - SHOW VETERINARIANS

The eleventh vote was on an amendment to Chapter 10, Section 4, of the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows – (Duties and Responsibilities of) Show Veterinarians*, that would insert “or veterinary clinics” for clarity and consistency. The amendment was proposed by the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee and brought forward with approval by the AKC Board of Directors. A two-thirds majority of the delegates voted for the amendment. Chapter 10, Section 4 now reads:

SECTION 4. *Clubs that use “on call” veterinarians or veterinary clinics are required to: (a) Assure that services are available during the show hours and discuss the duties of the “on call” veterinarian prior to the event judging schedule; (b) Provide exhibitors with contact information and detailed directions to the facility in the judging schedule and at the event.*

The twelfth vote concerned an amendment to Chapter 16, Section 2, of the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows – Championships*, removes “or height” from two places in the current rule, brings into line with the current execution of shows. It also would provide the opportunity for class dogs placing 2nd, 3rd or 4th in the group to be awarded Championship points. It would add language to define how any Championship points are to be awarded whereas a class dog placing 2nd, 3rd, or 4th in the group competition. The Delegate Dog Show Rules and All-Breed Committees endorsed this amendment. It was proposed by Staff and brought forward with approval by the AKC Board of Directors. Two-thirds of the delegates approved the amendment. Chapter 16, Section 2 now reads:

SECTION 2. *A dog which in its breed competition at a show shall have been placed Winners and which also shall have won its group class at the same show shall be awarded championship points figured at the highest point rating of any breed or recognized variety or height of any breed entered in the show and entitled to winners points in its group, or if it also shall have been designated Best in Show, shall be awarded championship points figured at the highest point rating of any breed or recognized variety or height of any breed entered and entitled to winners points in the show.*

A dog in its breed competition at a show which has placed Winners, and which also has finished second, third, or fourth in its group competition at the same show shall be awarded championship points figured at the highest point rating of any breed or recognized variety of any breed entered in the show and entitled to winners points in its group, exclusive of any breed or variety that placed higher in the group class.

The final points to be awarded under this section shall not be in addition to but inclusive of any points previously awarded the dog in its breed competition or under the provisions of this section.

The thirteenth vote concerned an amendment to Chapter 9, Section 2, of the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows – Superintendents and Show Secretaries*, which would insert the allowance for the AKC to approve individuals to serve as an on-site show secretary for more than the show or shows of only one Group or All-Breed Club and any Group or All-Breed show held on the same day and site in a calendar year. Approval would be limited to events where the individual is serving only as the “on-site” show secretary. The AKC would establish the criteria under which one may be considered. The Delegate Dog Show Rules and All-Breed Committees endorsed this amendment. It was proposed by Staff and brought forward with approval by the AKC Board of Directors. A two-thirds vote of the delegates approved the amendment as amended by a majority vote. Chapter 9, Section 2 now reads:

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. However, individuals approved by the AKC may serve as an on-site show secretary for up to 18 all-breed and/or group shows per calendar year.

The final vote was on an amendment to Chapter 14, Section 2 and New Section 2A, of the *Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedure for Pointing Breeds – Regular Stakes That May Be Offered*, that would refine how Derby Stake placements qualify a dog to enter a Limited stake by allowing additional placements depending on the size of the Open Derby Stake. It would provide for qualifying placements depending on the size of the Open Derby Stake. This amendment was proposed by the Performance Events Department and brought forward with approval by the AKC Board of Directors. The amendment passed by a two-thirds majority. Chapter 14, Section 2 now reads:

Section 2. *Regular stakes that may be offered: A club may not offer more than one of these stakes at any given trial. A dog may only be entered once per stake at any given trial.*

Puppy Stake *(Open and/or Amateur Walking) for dogs 6 months of age and under 15 months of age on the first advertised day of the trial (e.g., a dog whelped on January 30, 1989, would not be eligible for entry in a Puppy stake at a trial which starts on April 30, 1990). Horseback handling is not permitted in Amateur Walking Puppy stakes.*

Derby Stake *(Open and/or Amateur Walking) for dogs six (6) months of age and under two (2) years of age on the first advertised day of the trial (e.g., a dog whelped on January 30, 1989, would not be eligible for entry in a Derby stake at a trial which starts on January 30, 1991). Horseback handling is not permitted in Amateur Walking Derby stakes.*

Gun Dog Stake *(Open and/or Amateur) for dogs six (6) months of age and over on the first advertised day of the trial.*

All-Age Stake *(Open and/or Amateur) for dogs six (6) months of age and over on the first advertised day of the trial.*

Limited Gun Dog Stake *(Open and/or Amateur) for dogs six (6) months of age and over on the first advertised day of the trial which have placed first, second, third or fourth in any Gun Dog Stake, or a first place in an Open Derby stake. A field trialgiving club may give an Amateur Limited Gun Dog Stake in which places that qualify a dog have been acquired in Amateur Stakes only. The stake must be advertised as such in the premium list and any additional advertising that may be done.*

First place in an Amateur Walking Derby Stake qualifies the dog to enter an Amateur Limited Gun Dog Stake only.

Grand Open Limited Gun Dog Stake and/or Grand Amateur Limited Gun Dog Stake *for dogs six (6) months of age and over on the first advertised dog of the trial which have placed first through fourth in any Gun Dog Stake (open or amateur), or a first place in an Open Derby stake. First place in an Amateur Walking Derby Stake qualifies the dog to enter a Grand Amateur Limited*

Gun Dog Stake only. Note #1: Grand Limited stakes are different than Limited Stakes in that Grand stakes must be run for at least 60 minutes per brace. Note #2: Dogs that have not earned the FC or AFC title may enter Grand Limited stakes. Points earned by these dogs will be credited toward their FC or AFC title. Points will not be split between FC/AFC titles and GFC/GAFC titles.

Limited All-Age Stake (Open and/or Amateur) for dogs six (6) months of age and over on the first advertised day of the trial which have placed first, second, third or fourth in any All-Age Stake, or a first place in an Open Derby stake. A field trial-giving club may give an Amateur Limited All-Age Stake in which places that qualify a dog have been acquired in Amateur Stakes only. When a club elects the latter option, the stake must be advertised as such in the premium list and any additional advertising that may be done.

First place in an Amateur Walking Derby Stake qualifies the dog to enter an Amateur Limited All-Age Stake only.

Grand Open Limited All-Age Stake and/or **Grand Amateur Limited All-Age Stake** for dogs six (6) months of age and over on the first advertised dog of the trial which have placed first through fourth in any All-Age Stake (open or amateur), or a first place in an Open Derby stake. First place in an Amateur Walking Derby Stake qualifies the dog to enter a Grand Amateur Limited All-Age Stake only. Note #1: Grand Limited stakes are different than Limited Stakes in that Grand stakes must be run for at least 60 minutes per brace. Note #2: Dogs that have not earned the FC or AFC title may enter Grand Limited stakes. Points earned by these dogs will be credited toward their FC or AFC title. Points will not be split between FC/AFC titles and GFC/GAFC titles.

In an Amateur Stake at a licensed or member field trial all dogs must be handled by persons who, in the judgment of the Field Trial Committee, are qualified as Amateurs.

Definition of an Amateur for Pointing Breed Trials

An Amateur is a person who, during the period of two years preceding the trial has not accepted remuneration in any form for the training of a hunting dog or the handling of a dog in a field trial.

For purposes of this definition the word remuneration means payment in money, goods or services.

No member of the household of a person who does not qualify as an Amateur under this definition can qualify as an Amateur.

There are a number of indicators that can be used to assess whether an individual is a "member of a household." Certainly this includes those persons living together in the same shared dwelling. However there can be other indicators of a household member which may apply in some cases. In keeping with good sportsmanship and the intent of this Rule, it is expected that household members will act as responsible participants by acknowledging their relationship with a professional trainer and not handle dogs in amateur stakes.

An Amateur (as defined above) may run any number of dogs wholly owned by him or her, or members of his or her immediate family (as defined in Chapter 14, Section 5) but shall not run more than three dogs that are not so owned in any amateur stake.

Nonregular stakes: A club that has been approved to hold a licensed or member field trial may, subject to the approval of The American Kennel Club, offer additional nonregular stakes for dogs not less than 6 months of age, provided a clear and complete description of the eligibility

requirements and performance requirements for each such stake appears in the premium list. Nonregular stakes may not be used as training sessions prior to a dog being run in a regular stake. Nonregular stakes must not interfere with the running of regular stakes.

Any or all of such regular and nonregular stakes, except Open Puppy, may be offered as Retrieving Stakes.

December 2022 Meeting

The December 2022 meeting of the AKC Delegates was held on December 16, 2022, in Orlando, Florida. There were 257 delegates in attendance.

In his report, President Sprung noted that the championship events surrounding and including the AKC National Show had 9395 entries which was the highest in the 22 years of holding the AKC National show.

Mr. Phillips, CFO, gave the financial report. In this report he noted that litter registrations total almost 250,00 for the first nine months of 2022. This represents a 1% increase over the same period in 2021. Individual registrations again were down 9% for the same period for a total of 563,978. Registrations accounted for 41% of total AKC revenue. For the fiscal period ending September 20, 2022, the AKC generated revenues of \$80,000,000, which resulted in \$18,600,000 of operating income.

Following the Financial report, the delegates voted on two separate amendments to the *Charter and Bylaws of The American Kennel Club*. The first was an amendment to **Article VIII, Section 1**. This amendment would bring the bylaws into alignment with the current practice for designating the Nominating Committee by the Board of Directors. The amendment was proposed by the Delegate Bylaws 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. **Article VIII, Section 1**, I now reads:

***SECTION 1.** The Board of Directors before August fifteenth of each year shall designate five Delegates to serve as principal members and two Delegates to serve as alternates to be a Nominating Committee. No Delegate designated to serve on the Nominating Committee may be an officer of the AKC or a member of its Board of Directors. The duty of the Nominating Committee is to nominate candidates for vacancies on the Board of Directors which are to be filled at the next annual meeting of the AKC. The names of the Delegates on the Nominating Committee and their roles as either principal members or alternates are to be published on the Secretary's Page of the September AKC GAZETTE.*

The second vote was on an amendment to **Article X, Section 1**, of the *Charter and Bylaws of The American Kennel Club*, which would reflect the current state of business where the Chief Financial Officer manages the day-to-day financial operations of the AKC. This amendment was proposed by the Delegate Bylaws Committee and brought forward with approval from the AKC Board of Directors. There were two amendments approved which altered slightly the language of the original amendment. The amendment, thusly changed, received two-thirds of the votes of the delegates and passed. Article X, Section 1 now reads:

SECTION 1. The Board shall have supervision of the funds, assets and property of the AKC. It shall determine how much thereof shall be left in the hands or under direct control of the Chief Financial Officer for current needs, and how the balance thereof shall be deposited or invested.

The Chief Financial Officer shall have power to withdraw or transfer said deposits or dispose of or change said investments for the benefit of the AKC.

March 2023 Meeting

The March 2023 meeting of the AKC Delegates was held on March 14, 2023, in Newark, New Jersey. There were 264 delegates in attendance.

In his President's report, Dennis Sprung noted that 2022 had the highest number of events (25,178) and the highest number of entries (3,549,472) in the history of the AKC.

Next, Ted Phillips, CFO, gave the Financial Report. He noted that 2022 marked the eighth straight year of litter registration increases. 2022 saw 326,945 litters registered. Individual registrations, however, decreased 11% over 2021 figures with a total of 716,519. For 2022, operating revenues increased 10% to \$106,000,000. Net operating income also increased to \$19,400,000. The AKC expended \$87,700,000 in 2022, which represented a 13% increase over 2021. Total AKC assets stood at \$224,000,000 at the end of 2022.

Five votes took place at this meeting. The first vote was on mostly housekeeping amendments to **Chapter 6, Section 2A; Chapter 7, Sections 6, 7, 9, 13 and 17; Chapter 9, Section 10; and Chapter 11, Section 6**, of the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows*. These amendments were proposed by the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee and brought forward with approval by the AKC Board of Directors. At least two-thirds of the delegates voted in favor of the amendments as amended by the delegate body.

The second vote was on amendments to **Chapter 8 and Chapter 10, Section 2**, of the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows*. The amendment to **Chapter 8** would replace "obedience trial or tracking test" with generic "companion event" per the recommendation of the Companion Events Committee. It also would insert content from the deleted Chapter 9, Section 3, addressing the event committee's responsibility to complete arrangements with a veterinarian to service its show either in attendance or on call. Additionally, would be revised to be consistent with current application procedures which do not ask or require for the name of the Show Veterinarian. Lastly, the amendment would relocate content into Chapter 8 which is proposed to be deleted from Chapter 10, Section 2.

The amendment to **Chapter 10, Section 2**, of the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows*, would delete verbiage related to duty of the club proposed to be inserted into Chapter 8. It also would replace "On call" veterinarian with Show Veterinarian, clarifying that whether in attendance or on call, the Show Veterinarian must be available to examine dogs during show hours. Lastly, the word "treat" would be replaced with "examine" for veterinary procedural purposes. This amendment was proposed by AKC Staff and brought forward with approval by the AKC Board of Directors. These amendments as amended by the delegate body passed with a two-thirds majority vote.

The third vote was on an amendment to **Chapter 11, Section 8**, of the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows* – Dog Show Entries, Conditions of Dogs Affecting Eligibility, would insert "and all other single entry nonregular classes" to expand the classes in which neutered dogs or spayed bitches may be allowed to compete. It would maintain the allowance to only be permissible at independent specialties or All-Breed dog shows where there is no competition beyond Best of Breed. It also would maintain that to achieve a Conformation title, a neutered or spayed entrant must have first attained its Championship title by competing unaltered in the regular classes. It would correspond to the proposal to Chapter 6, Section 2, which would add verbiage to clarify that information must be included in the premium list if the club elects to permit neutered dogs and spayed bitches to compete in Veterans, or any other single-entry

nonregular class. This amendment was proposed by the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee and brought forward with approval by the AKC Board of Directors. Two-thirds of the delegates voted in favor of the amendments, and the amendments passed.

The fourth vote was on an amendment to **Chapter 6, Section 2**, of the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows – Premium Lists and Closing of Entries*, which would insert “and/” to reflect the need, when applicable, to list both a superintendent and individual show secretary in the premium list. It also would insert for clarity that notification must be included in the premium list for an independent specialty or All-Breed dog show that does not offer Groups or Best in Show, and if the club has elected to allow neutered dogs or spayed bitches to compete in non-regular classes. This amendment was proposed by the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee and brought forward with approval by the AKC Board of Directors. The amendment passed by a two-thirds majority vote of the delegates.

The final vote was on an amendment to **Chapter 14, Section 11**, of the *Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedure for Retrievers*, which will not allow Local Retriever Field Trials that award championship points to do so during the two National Championship events. This provision does not prohibit clubs from holding derby stakes, qualifying stakes or owner-handler qualifying stakes. This amendment was proposed by the Retriever Field Trial Advisory Committee and brought forward with approval by the AKC Board of Directors. The amendment passed by a two-thirds majority vote of the delegates.

At this meeting the delegates elected Dan Smyth, Steven Hamblin and Charles Garvin as members of the Class of 2027.

June 2023 Meeting

The June 2023 meeting of the AKC Delegates was held on June 13, 2023, in Newark, New Jersey. There were 250 delegates in attendance.

In his Chairman’s Report, Dr. Thomas Davies announced that the AKC Purebred Preservation Bank received 501(c)(3) status from the IRS, making donations to the organization eligible for tax deductions as allowed by law. To learn more about about the Purebred Preservation Bank and opportunities to fund this effort go to the Bank’s own web site, which is <https://akcppb.org/>.

After the President’s report, Daphna Straus gave a presentation on the AKC Humane Fund. In her remarks, Ms. Straus mentioned that parent clubs can apply for a Parent Club Rescue Grant to help with expenses related to rescue. Ms. Straus emphasized, however, **that such a grant CANNOT be used to purchase dogs in any situation**. Consequently, the SSCA could not apply for a grant to help with the costs incurred when it bought puppies at auction in 2022 and 2023. Ms. Straus also mentioned that scholarships are a vital funding area for the Fund as well. The AKC Humane Fund has the long running Spurling Scholarship which helps students pursue academic studies in disciplines that promote Responsible Pet Ownership.

In his Financial Report, CFO Ted Phillips noted that litter registrations decreased 6% for the first quarter of 2023, and litter registrations continued to decline as well. In the first quarter of 2023, the AKC’s net operating income was \$4,300,000.

The only vote taken at this meeting was on an amendment to **Article VI, Section 6** of the *Charter and Bylaws of The American Kennel Club*, which removes the reference to professional judges (one who charges a fee in excess of expenses) as it relates to Delegate occupational eligibility. This amendment was proposed by the Delegate Advocacy and Advancement Committee submitted by the Delegate

Coordinating Committee and approved by the Board of Directors. Two-thirds of the delegates voted in favor and the amendment passed.

September 2023 Meeting

The September 2023 meeting of the AKC Delegates was held on September 12, 2023, in Newark, New Jersey. There were 269 delegates in attendance.

In his Financial Report, CFO Ted Phillips noted that litter registrations decreased 7% for the first half of 2023 to 155,735. Individual registrations fell 14% over the same period to 339,936. The number of events increased 6% and entries at those events increased 3% over the same period. As of June 30, the AKC's net operating income stood at \$7,800,000. Total assets as of that date was \$255,000,000.

The only vote taken at this meeting was on an amendment to o **Chapter 2, Section 14**, of the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows – Dog Show Entries, Conditions of Dogs Affecting Eligibility*. This amendment would insert “or access to”, to recognize the acceptance of digital copies of required booklets at events. It would modify the list of required references, and remove The Complete Dog Book. It also would replace the list of documents to have available “when applicable” with the generic statement of “any other applicable rules, regulations and/or guidelines for the competitions being held” in recognition of the greatly expanded and changing list of competitions held with conformation dog shows. This amendment was proposed by the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee and brought forward with approval by the AKC Board of Directors. The amendment passed by a two-thirds vote of the delegates.

Chapter 2, Section 14 now reads:

SECTION 14. All clubs holding shows under American Kennel Club rules must at each event have available or access to; the current applicable breed standards, the Rules Applying to Dog Shows, Rules Applying to Registration and Discipline, Dealing with Misconduct at AKC Events, the Show Manual, and any other applicable rules, regulations and/or guidelines for the competitions being held.

Respectfully submitted,

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