

Barks and Tails

Newsletter of the Brevard Kennel Club, Inc.

Volume 24, Issue 8

Promoting The Sport Of Purebred Dogs

August 2019

MEETING NOTICE

The next General Membership Meeting is
*Wednesday, August 7, 2019, at El Charro, 916
Florida Avenue, Cocoa, Florida, at 7:00 pm.*
Members wanting dinner please arrive at 6:00.
Website: <http://elcharrocl.com/> (Menu:
<http://elcharrocl.com/menu/>).

2019/20 CLUB OFFICERS

President	Edna Corney
Vice-President	Leslie Glaze Kovacs
Secretary	Kristin Halkovic
Treasurer	Marsha Dyal
Directors	Maureen Finch
	Donna Lee
	Susan Thibodeaux

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

As you know, a group of us took the class in Small Animal Emergency Sheltering. We got a lot of information throughout the day

There is a picture of our certificate and class elsewhere in the newsletter.

We now need to go on line to do see more work then take the two day class. The board will work on booking the two day class to work toward finishing.

If you were unable to take the first day but wish to get in on our two day class, you can go to Fema.gov to locate another day one class. I know there will be one in Naples, but there may be one that fits your schedule better.

The maximum for the two day class is 20 people with a minimum of 12. Please let me know if you want to be included in the two day class.

Have a great day and see you all soon.

Edna

WELCOME NEW MEMBER

Annette O'Donnell

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

June 5, 2019

Meeting was called to order by President Edna Corney.

Minutes were read and motion to accept minutes as read by Tracy Eberhardt, seconded by Donna Lee.

Treasurer's Report – by Maureen as Marsha does not yet have access to everything. Report on file with Treasurer.

Request was made to have board reconsider having club apply for 5013C status.

Show Report – Judges for November have been completed, need to have trophy get with Tanya

Tanya has ideas for trophies. New items instead of the ornaments.

If you want to donate trophies for November show contact Tanya.

Marsha- has agreed to remain Chair for Fast CAT. Will get dates for Fast CAT for 2020.

Rip will measure for Lure Coursing.

Mirrors cost more than anticipated, are installed and look very nice.

Handling Class – have not had last two weeks in July and August; what do members want to do? Val Davies made motion that we give the instructors a break and not have class end of July and August. Carolyn Pincheck 2nd. PASSED.

Susan reporting on SARC and DART trying to find a location to hold classes. Training will be offered to all club members, CSTA, Space Coast, and Central Florida.

Cops and Kids day camp expect to be 40 children want to supply pizza, ice cream and soda for children.

Art supplies – expect cost to be \$1000. Susan T. made motion we use 1K for day camp, CJ seconded. Susan asked if City could publish a thank you to club for their support of all the

functions. Passed with no nay or abstentions. Camp will be held June 26th, asking for members to bring dogs for meet and greet.

Oct. 12th is the date for the Canine Competition. We supported it last year \$5K they have a 10K contribution level to purchase another police dog. Discussion about our club donating the money with the caveat that the dog be bred in U.S.A. Brenda made a motion that the treasurer and secretary meet with Police Chief outline memorandum of understanding that BKC can vote on. MOU based on 10k sponsorship. Pam Shaia 2nd. 20 for, 1 opposed, 3 abstentions. Motion passed.

Paws and Pals camp going well, have 1 trainer per child, anyone who would like to come and help you are welcome. Ask George to pull pictures from CSTA website and add to BKC website.

RIP asked if we are going to continue to use Megan's display. Rip to check on price of monitor to display times for Fast CAT. Police dept. is going to borrow our timing lights for the competition.

Tracy E. – Barn Hunt – Contacted Kathy Marble Brown – what the club supplies and how many dogs can participate. How the money is distributed, facilities needed, and fee for doing the event.

Tanya has a contact in Orlando; Karen also has a contact that has own facility and puts on Barn Hunts.

Two applications were read.

New Business: Need a member to work with Café Margaux for our annual dinner. Brenda Warner volunteered to arrange dinner with Café Margaux. You must give Treasurer check for \$50 per person. If you show up, you get your check back. If you do not show the club will cash the check.

Maureen: Saturday is memorial for Mary Thrasher husband.

Meeting was adjourned.

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

July 3, 2019

Minutes were read and amended to add applicants whose applications were read and number of mirrors.

Treasures Report: Marsha Dyal – Gave account of various accounts and checking account transactions.

F-CAT had a final profit of \$2,709.00.

Pam Shia requested the board consult a tax attorney about 501C3.

Pam Hinton had comment about club becoming 5013C, says it does make a difference in how the IRS looks at your accounts. Edna Corney advised that previous Treasurer, Betty Page, had checked with an accountant to check on the feasibility of becoming a 5013C.

Maureen advised that this issue is looked at yearly. It has been sent back to the Board.

Show Report: Kristin Halkovic for Leslie Kovacs, all is being uploaded to AKC.

Handling Class: one more then in hiatus until Sept. 9th.

Susan Thibodeaux will inform everyone on Monday night when handling classes will resume.

Legislation: Susan Thibodeaux.

D.C. Trip: only 50 people in attendance. Government Relations for AKC is 6 people, she met with all of them. AKC is relying on us. Speakers were informative and the person in charge of state fairs. Animal people need to stand up to bullies. Need to support PAC or NAIA. Asking that we give the cost of one entry would generate a lot of money to support animal friendly politicians. Need to look at what we need to do. Met with staffers to discuss importing of dogs. Bill being written that will give USDA teeth to enforce laws. Need to have funding for pet inspectors, if someone imports an animal now there is nothing in our laws that says the shipper must return it. Taxpayers pay for Vet fees and dog is adopted in U.S. When AKC comes out

with the bill, please support it. Staffers attended luncheon hosted by AKC. No officials attended. Members need to visit representative before law is introduced. We need to add together our accumulated experience with dogs. Need to come up with a list of everything we do for the community. Object is to let them know they have an asset in this county. Susan will put a form together and it will be sent to membership to fill out. Question and Answer session was held. Maureen Finch asked if we could have someone from their PAC come to the Orlando Cluster. Need for committee that researches and studies issues locally.

Need to help local people who are having difficulties with their animals. Must take care of our own.

Request Sheriff to call us instead of SPCA if they find a situation we can help with. Article will be added to newsletter. Susan suggested they do a webinar next year. AKC videotaped entire proceedings.

AKC is putting together a committee to try to find a way to combat negative reaction when one becomes involved in politics.

Fast CAT: nothing to report. Rip has yet to have success checking on prices for electronic time display.

Still working on measuring property for Lure Coursing.

Brenda Warner: Café Margaux dinner – Need to give Brenda a check for \$50 per person which will be returned when you show up for dinner. Club members and spouses currently only. Cancel is 48 hrs.

Police Competition: Brenda Warner – Chief does not wish to have money that is to be used in the future. We will donate 5K, same as we did last year. If we wish to donate for a future dog, it is tax deductible as is the donation to competition.

General Membership Meeting, July 3 (cont'd.)

Looking for items for 50 goodie bags for Police Competition. Dog related items can be advertising or have some type of value. Tina will ask Royal Canin for items for goodie bags. Brenda made motion to donate 5K and Rip 2nd.

Vote to 23 for, 0 against, and 2 abstentions. Motion is carried.

SARC and DART Class –State will not pay if it is less than 20 participants.

CSTA is holding an AKC scent work trial. Barn Hunt inquiries we can take information; however, bylaws committee is currently working on something to encourage more members to volunteers in order to hold more events.

Seminole dog club is holding a match in Sanford this weekend.

Vote was taken on admitting Annette O'Donnell for membership.

Meeting was adjourned.



Oakley, my 10 month old Wire Dachshund bitch, won 3 majors recently in Oklahoma City: a 5-point, 3-point, and another 3-point. We picked up 2 more single points recently at the West Palm Beach shows. She now needs only 1 point to finish. Also, she received from AKC, a "Puppy of Achievement" certificate. I'm very excited over this beautiful little girl. I bred and owned her great-great grandsire, which makes it all the more fun.

Sherry Hatfield



My Brittany – Diems Magical Star – got
2 legs in Rally Novice B.

Lori Diem

My newest dog. This is Nova, my Greater Swiss Mountain Dog. At 85 lbs. she's still a puppy and growing!! But already shows promise as a carting, obedience, agility and therapy dog.

Mary Thrasher

At the April show in Perry GA the American Black and Tan Coonhound Club held their National Specialty. Isabel, Oak Hill's A Woman of Affairs, aka Bizzy Izzy, walked away with 5 point and 4 point majors at 8 months old, her first time in the show ring! Maureen and I want to thank Susan Thibodeaux for training and showing her so beautifully!!

Brenda Warner



New Champion Brieriu's Sorry Charlie

Jennifer White

AKC NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE

By Susan B. Thibodeaux

ShowSight Magazine, July 2019, pp. 138-144

https://www.showsightonline.com/2019/2019_07/mobile/index.html

We had just finished a months-long battle to stop new county regulations that would have prohibited pet shops from selling puppies as well as put onerous new restrictions and inspections on local hobby breeders. As the legislative liaison for Brevard Kennel Club in Florida, I had been pulled into a fray I felt I wasn't completely prepared for. While we were somewhat successful in getting some particularly distasteful requirements changed or deleted, we were unable to keep the ordinance from passing.

On top of that, we were in a letter writing and email campaign to stop some draconian, proposed state legislation against breeders in Florida, which thankfully didn't make it out of committee before the session ended. After AKC sent our club an invitation to participate in the AKC National Legislative Conference and the club voted to spend the money to send someone, it was a no brainer to say "Yes! I'll attend."

What an incredible weekend, with dedicated,

inspiring and motivated people! Two days with the AKC government relations staff, great speakers and other club and club federations' legislative liaisons; I feel both energized by their commitment and experience in fighting anti-dog breeding and anti-dog ownership legislation and daunted by the money and rabidness of the animal rights activists we are up against.

My first impression was the group of attendees was much smaller than I had expected. I had expected a few hundred from kennel clubs across the nation but, inclusive of the speakers, there were about 50 in attendance.

The biggest clear fact that came out of this conference is that AKC doesn't have the manpower to fight this without us as their troops. Just as an officer in the army leads a battalion, we must recognize without us AKC has no Army. General Eisenhower couldn't have won World War II by himself; it took the [soldiers and airmen and sailors.](#) [The AKC can't fight this on our behalf. It needs us.](#)



The seven representatives of the groups at the Capitol Hill reception.

The folks in AKC's government relations department are extraordinary. They come from government, legislative and legal backgrounds and they all have a genuine love for purebred dogs. They are fiercely committed to protecting our right to breed, own and participate in canine events. These aren't just jobs to them. Several on the GR staff are active breeders and exhibitors themselves and members of breed and all breed clubs. They have a stake in this just as we do.

The conference took place over two intensive days. Among the speakers, in addition to the AKC GR staff, we got to hear was Susi Szeremy, the founder of National Purebred Dog Day. She is a Puli fancier and her commitment, drive and imagination has led to an entire day devoted to purebred dogs.

Bill Shelton, AKC judge and corgi breeder, also spoke. He's started a Facebook page to promote the conversation and protection of purebred dogs. Bill works tirelessly to promote the welfare and preservation of purposefully bred purebred dogs. His dedication to this work resounded through his presentation and we were moved by his passion for our sport.

The CEO of the AKC Canine Health Foundation, Diane Brown, DVM, spoke on the work the foundation has done in providing funds for research, which not only benefits purebred dogs but ultimately leads to better health for all dogs and people as well.

The CHF has provided more than \$46 million in grants to improve canine health: not just purebreds, all dogs. Some of the cancer research AKC funded was noticed by researchers for human cancers, and in some areas, they are working collaboratively, sharing research and data. Ultimately, these will benefit all. This is information we need to share with our lawmakers when we talk to them.

It is evident from the facts provided at the conference that we must align ourselves with other groups that are also working against anti-animal legislation. We had speakers from the National Animal Interest Alliance (NAIA), the Canadian Kennel Club and the International Association of Fairs and Expositions. Fair managers are regularly receiving protests, hate mail and even death threats to try to intimidate them into stopping the use of animal acts, exhibitions and shows.

The assistant deputy administrator of the USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (Animal Care) was an interesting and informative speaker. He was quite surprised by a number of questions and concerns we raised.

A large concern we had that he acknowledged as not being aware of but would be reviewing was the weaponization of the USDA's primary definition of a commercial breeder (four breeding bitches). Because so



This security guard was excited to see "AKC dog people" and stopped us to share pictures of his Miniature Schnauzer.



Rep Spano with the three legislative liaisons from Florida clubs.



many states and municipalities use that as a guideline, some AR supporters will call in and anonymously report a person with four bitches as an unlicensed breeder. This happens even if the breeder doesn't meet the remainder of the criteria to require a license.

After lunch on the second day, we were let loose in the hallways of Congress to see our state representatives and senators. In most cases this meant a meeting with a staffer, but we were lucky with our meeting with Rep. Ross Spano. While the official meeting was with his aide, he pulled us into his office to show us pictures of his dog and chat with us about our pets. I was with two other wonderful ladies from Florida, Diane Roberts and Judy Seltrecht, and we discovered the hallways went on forever in those huge buildings.

Our main topic for discussion in our meetings with them was the issue of foreign dogs being imported for rescue and the lack of health documentation and oversight. It was noted by one of our conference speakers that CDC, as a result of the farm bill passing with AKC support, reported well over one million dogs were brought into the USA in a year's period. As we've seen, rabies, brucellosis, canine influenza, leptospirosis and other diseases have been brought into the United States, and often the dogs are not tracked and have fraudulent paperwork.

The second day was concluded with an AKC reception for members of Congress and their staffs. It only took a minute to see that many of their staff and interns are less than 30 years old and on very limited budgets. Offering food and drink, along with the chance to meet cute, friendly show dogs, resulted in quite a large crowd. Nearly 350 people attended, and the other conference attendees and I went from group to group explaining why it's important to keep breeders of purposely bred purebred dogs at the table and in the conversation when considering legislation concerning dogs. Of course, I showed them cute Toy Fox and Toy Manchester Terrier photos and videos as well and discovered what dogs they have. They love dogs!

So what can you do?

Be a part of the AKC army. AKC is a club of clubs. You are probably in one or more of those clubs.

Visit your local offices of your federal and state lawmakers. Take them cookies and pictures of your dogs. Explain who you are and how anti-dog legislation would affect you. Give them your personal story. The animal rights groups have painted bad pictures of us that are false; show your state and federal representatives the authentic you.

Explain your participation in your breed rescues. Discuss how your clubs and members contribute in so many ways to the community; enumerate and list your good works. Give them your local club's list and include on it all that you do on



The bus ride back to the hotel. We walked quite a bit—we were happy to see the bus!



behalf of ALL dogs.

Share this list with lawmakers, media, colleges, churches, pet professionals and veterinarians in your area. Make friends with your local law enforcers. Use positive messaging to raise your club's profile but discourage breeder bashing. We can't eat our own in this fight. Be respectful in discussions so they hear what you say.

Seek seats on animal advisory boards and committees. Don't let the other side completely take all the seats to provide the expert advice to the government groups. We can't wait for a bill to come out. Get them familiar with you now!

Offer your clubs' members' hundreds of years combined experience training, breeding and working with dogs to help them when dog issues arise. Quantify it: You are the experts! Diane, Judy and I added ours up and told the folks we met with that combined we three had almost 120 years of experience in training, breeding, showing and instructing. Add your club's experience up and share that.

Don't let the other side take that role because you hid in silence. If you hear of an ordinance or legislation in your area quickly advise AKC GR. The staff in GR are few, we breeders, exhibitors and club members are many – we cover the country.

Please consider donating to NAIA and the AKC PAC. The AR groups are spending enormous amounts to influence our lawmakers - we need as a community of dog fanciers to help our side fight. One entry fee from each one of us combined would be a huge help to them in this war.

One final point. Many dog breeders and owners are scared. I had friends unfriend me on Facebook when I was fighting the ordinance and legislation because they were afraid someone would come after them. At the AKC conference, a speaker noted that we are being bullied. We, combined with the other animal groups, have numbers.

How do you stop being bullied? By standing up to them. If they don't have the public, they don't really have the numbers. We need to band together and fight as a group. Numbers speak.

The AKC government relations department and your club's legislative liaisons cannot fight the hundreds of bills alone. We can't change the public's perception and minds alone. It will take all of us to turn the tide and take back the conversation.

The AKC government relations page has great resources for your use as well as suggestions on things you and your club can do. Go to <https://www.akc.org/clubs-delegates/government-relations/>

We couldn't find the bus and we walked a lot of miles, but I left Washington DC feeling motivated, informed and yes, exhausted. I am very happy I attended and I feel hope.



Halls and more halls to get to our appointments on AKC Lobby Day.



Small Animal Emergency Training (SART) – July 20, 2019

