

December Delegate Meeting Report  
Submitted by Don James  
Leonberger COA AKC Delegate

Parent Club 12/10/2015  
Pat Laurens Chair

CGC numbers have increased to 39600 as of December 2015.

The Rescue Group email list now has 102 breed rescue groups participating on the email distribution list.

Peter Piusz went over PC Heath requirement statements. We have been able to get the Leonberger portion of the Bred with Heart web page changed to reflect a correct listing of health testing requirements required by the LCA.

Discussion about breeder of Merit issues. There are 11000 Breeders of Merit listed on AKC Website but only 3000 of them ever respond to initiatives about the program sent out by AKC. The big question is what's going on with those 8000 and how can parent clubs find out about people who are part of the 8000 who are claiming to be Breeders of Merit and claiming to be parent club members when they, in fact, are not.

Bred with Heart statistical breakdown –  
486 breeders who have earned the Bred with Heart designation are commercial breeders.  
42% of Bred with Heart breeders can be considered to be backyard breeders.  
13% of them are AKC registered kennels who belong to their breed parent club.

Disaster Relief Trailer Update - 36 trailers have been delivered; 20 more are in the pipeline.  
Several trailers have already been deployed in Texas.  
\$1,109,000.00 has been contributed by AKC Member clubs.

**PARENT CLUBS MUST MAKE SURE ALL BROCHURES PROVIDED BY AKC ARE UPDATED WITH CURRENT CLUB CONTACT INFORMATION SO ANYONE CONSIDERING BUYING A PUPPY HAS ACCESS TO CORRECT INFORMATION ABOUT BUYING A PUPPY OF THAT BREED.**

Discussion of the new Puppy of Distinction (PoD) Proposal from Alan Slay ([als@akc.org](mailto:als@akc.org)) in AKC Event Plans.

If the program is approved, a PoD puppy may earn points in the 4-6-month class but can continue to receive points by competing in the 6-9 and 9-12-month puppy classes. A puppy must earn 10 points in the above referenced puppy classes to get PoD designation.

AKC is developing the capability to send email blasts to breed owners targeting those in the geographical area in which an upcoming Specialty. The breed's Parent club must request AKC to do this. AKC has been running a test using the 6 most popular breeds to see what kind of penetration this has resulted in.

There was a discussion of a possible revival of the biannual Parent Club Conference. Problem is a source of revenue. It was sponsored by AKC, AKC ReUnite, and Eukanuba, but that funding is no longer available.

A proposal from AKC Staff has been presented which would award 1 championship point to BOW dog at breed level competition. The proposal has been endorsed by the Dog Show Rules committee. This would not be a mandatory award. It would be awarded at the discretion of the Judge. Had this been in effect in 2014, 11,850 additional points would have been awarded.

Low membership breeds are discriminated against by not being allowed to get full membership as an AKC Parent club. Clubs who are eligible to become parent club members are not choosing to do so. Can we do something about this? We need to strategize about how we can sell these clubs on the value of participating as a Parent Club Delegate. A subcommittee of the Parent Club Committee has been named to develop ideas to use to approach not only the 16 or so clubs who do qualify to have parent club delegates but have yet to send one to the meeting but also ideas to use for future clubs to get them excited about appointing a Delegate to represent their club. Parent Club committee members Karen Burgess, Greater Clark County KC, Don

James, Leonberger Club of America, Anne Bowes, Pembroke Welsh Corgi Club of America and Helen Prince, Scottish Terrier Club of America have been appointed as subcommittee members. Anne Bowes is the chair.

Canine Health Committee – Susan Hamill Chair

Dr. Diane Brown CHF

CHIC update from Delegate Eddie Dzuik

175 participating breeds

Parent clubs responsible for notifying CHIC of our changes

103,755 dogs in database

20,000 DNA samples now on file available for research grants

It's important to get samples of healthy dogs to use as a control group for research studies. So, young, healthy dogs are valuable as well as older, diseased animals.

CHIC owner electronic update will not be available. Too many security loopholes.

OFFA has developed the ability to generate a breed specific health survey to be sent to breed club members.

Owner update: send to [ofa@offa.org](mailto:ofa@offa.org) or to Eddie directly: [edzuik@offa.org](mailto:edzuik@offa.org)

90% of collections are done via blood draws at national specialties.

FedEx can do pickups of blood draws.

OFFA has asked for people who are submitting DNA sample to stop doing this using cheek swabs. They are not used by researchers. The DNA purity in a cheek swab is not sufficient for most studies currently being done.

A new vaccine for H3N2 and H3N8 Canine Flu strains has been developed.

Dr. Jerry Klein has been appointed as the first Chief Veterinary Officer for AKC, He will be in attendance at the Health Committee meeting in March.

Veterinary students can attend the bi-annual parent club health conference. Funding can come from a club for about \$1500. OFFA has funding available for vet students to attend the conference through a donation to the CHF. There is a limit to the number of students that can attend. It is a parent club conference, not a vet student conference. 27 schools are eligible to send students.

Theriogenology residence program is now being supported by AKC to the tune of a \$400,000 contribution.

Susan Lilly CHF CEO – Announced that CHF had one of their best years and that funding of grants will be near an all-time high. A \$500,000.00 grant has already been made for a detailed study on Canine Hemangiosarcoma, which certainly hits home for our breed.

Samantha Wright – CHF reported on the recently completed Parent Club Health Conference.

Very successful conference. Some of the presentations made at the conference are available as webinars.

Cancer and Dermatology podcasts are available on the CHF website (<http://www.akcCHF.org>).

Contact Samantha at [sjw@akcCHF.org](mailto:sjw@akcCHF.org).

Dr. Diane Brown – Executive Director CHF

CHF Health survey will be available to all clubs after the start of the year.

The survey will be sent to all club officers, health liaisons and Delegates.

Top 10 health concerns for each breed should be on file with CHF.

Send email to Samantha to get current list. [sjw@akcCHF.org](mailto:sjw@akcCHF.org).

Webinars on breeding are available through CHF.

Epilepsy and reproduction are the targeted grant communities for 2016.

International Partnership for Dogs - AKC is part of this outgrowth of interest from multinational (mostly) all breed club conference. The consortium representing national clubs will share information on studies they have commissioned in their respective countries.

Coordinating Committee 12/10/2015

Dog Show Rules - Cindy Miller

Showing spay/neuter dogs (in conjunction with Parent Club Specialties)

Waiting for input from Parent Club Committee

Reserve Best Junior is in effect for clubs who want to offer it. It will be mandatory a/o July 2016.

The Judge's discretion optional 1 championship point for Best of Winners was passed by the committee in September.

A measure to amend Chapter 16 Section 9 of 'Rules Applying to Dog Shows' to allow snail mail entries to be accepted 24 hours after the posted closing date will be read at the next meeting in March.

Gretchen Bernardi - By Laws & Coordinating Committee Chair

Board has decided to do away with club minimum number of households required to become a parent club. All other requirements (i.e. Number of shows presented etc.) still required to become a parent club member.

Discussion of conflict with Board members who are also representing their home clubs. Can be at odds.

Discussion of time table for nominating committee.

Dave Hopkins Field Trial & Hunt Test

Discussion about surrogate delegates for clubs who can't come up with a member Delegate.

Dan Smyth – Delegate Advocacy and Advancement Committee

New delegate orientation program will be reviewed for 2016.

Delegate mentoring program overview

Website restructure committee.

Delegate name badges are available through Ellen Hardin (Golden Retriever Club).

Bob LaBerge - Herding Earthdog & Lure Coursing

Preparing a draft document in March

Presentation by Carmen Battaglia on the proposed Achiever Dog title.

Fast Cat- working on how to score breeds based on size (balance the playing field). Fast CAT is a derivative of Lure Coursing in which dogs run the test in a straight line rather than the traditional circular course.

General Meeting 12/11/2015

An update from the AKC IT team was presented. There have been improvements in the website although the overall look and feel (which I think needs significant work) has not yet been addressed. The Leonberger breed page is undergoing a significant transformation as we speak. New photos and new narratives have been provided to AKC and we are also redoing the photographs on the breed history page. We have a good relationship with the web people who are making these changes, so I'm very happy with how things are progressing as it relates to our breed.

The measure to abolish term limits was soundly defeated. Term limits for AKC Board members will remain in effect. Article VII Section I of the By Laws will remain in effect limiting any Board member to a maximum of two consecutive terms as a member of that group.

Three similar measures were voted on and passed. These all revolved around allowing show related documents (i.e. premium lists, catalogs etc.) to be made available electronically at the discretion of the sponsoring club.

A measure to allow several levels of Grand Championship titles was approved. This will allow for the addition of the following levels of Grand Championships:

Any Grand Champion which shall have won 100 Grand Championship points shall become a Grand Champion Bronze (GCHB). Any Grand Champion which shall have won 200 Grand Championship points shall become a Grand Champion Silver (GCHS). Any Grand Champion which shall have won 400 Grand Championship points shall become a Grand Champion Gold (GCHG). Any Grand Champion which shall have won 800 Grand Championship points shall become a Grand Champion Platinum (GCHP). After earning Grand Champion Platinum title, for each additional 800 Grand Championship points earned the Grand Champion Platinum title initials will be followed by a numeric designation indicating the quantity of times the dog has met the requirements of the Grand Champion Platinum title as defined above, e.g., 1,600 Grand Championship points = GCHP2. The AKC will identify dogs qualifying for these titles by the appropriate designations preceding their AKC name in all official AKC records. In each case, the higher title will supersede the preceding title in all official AKC records such that the highest title will be listed.

The next Delegate meeting will be held March 7&8, 2016 in Newark, New Jersey.