

AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB
Delegate Meeting
December 17, 2021

Dennis B. Sprung, President in the Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. ET.

The Chair advised the Delegates that face masks covering the nose and mouth were required to be worn at all times in the meeting room and in public areas regardless of vaccination status.

Delegates were reminded to check in at the registration desk, to ensure they would be marked present.

The Chair introduced the persons on the dais. Chairman, Dr. Thomas Davies; Vice Chairman, Dominic Palleschi Carota; Joan Corbisiero, Professional Registered Parliamentarian; Gina DiNardo, Executive Secretary; Sara Miller, Court Reporter.

Condolences were offered in the recent passing of members of the Delegate Body:

- Richard Grant on September the 7th. He was the Delegate for the Providence County Kennel Club since 2012.
- Patty Ann Peel on October 22nd. She was the Delegate for the Alaskan Malamute Club of America since 2012.
- Carol Smith on December the 5th. She was the Delegate for the Italian Greyhound Club of America since 2018.
- Robert Schroll on December the 6th. He was the Delegate for the Clarksville Kennel Club since 2000.

Sympathy was also given in the recent passing of Judith Daniels on November 18, 2021. Judi was the Delegate for the Kennel Club of Pasadena from 1981 to 1994, the Sun Maid Kennel Club of Fresno in 1994, and again from 1995 to 1996, as well as the Mt. Baker Kennel Club from 1999 to 2014. She served as the 18th President of The American Kennel Club from March 1995 to March 1996.

The Executive Secretary read the report on the Nominating Committee and the report on additional nominations.

Ms. DiNardo: Pursuant to Article VIII, Section 2, of the Charter and Bylaws of The American Kennel Club, the NOMINATING COMMITTEE

- Melanie Steele, Chair – Abilene Kennel Club
- Pamela Stacey Rosman – Canaan Dog Club of America
- Patti Strand – Dog Fanciers Association of Oregon
- Maggi Strouse – National Shiba Club of America
- Marilyn Vinson – Southeastern Iowa Kennel Club

and Alternates:

- Marge Calltharp – Chinese Shar-Pei Club of America
- Connie Clark – American Fox Terrier Club

appointed by the Board of Directors at its July 2021 meeting have nominated the following Delegates as candidates for such vacancies on the Board of Directors as to be filled at the next annual meeting of the Club on March 8, 2022. There are three vacancies for the Class of 2026.

CLASS OF 2026

- Christopher L. Sweetwood - Trap Falls Kennel Club
- Harold "Red" Tatro, III - Fort Worth Kennel Club
- Ann Wallin - Atlanta Kennel Club

Pursuant to Article VIII, Section 4, of the Charter and Bylaws of The American Kennel Club, there were no Delegates that submitted written petitions for board candidacy to the Executive Secretary.

Mr. Sprung: The Bylaws state that nominations may not be made from the floor. Nominations, therefore, closed on November 15, 2021.

In accordance with the Delegate Standing Rule, each candidate is allowed three minutes to address the Delegates. Keith Frazier will indicate to the candidates when three minutes have expired. The Chair will introduce the candidates who will speak in alphabetical order and no questions from the floor will be entertained.

The first candidate from the class of 2026 is Christopher L. Sweetwood representing Trap Falls Kennel Club.

Mr. Sweetwood: Good morning. I am Chris Sweetwood, Trap Falls Kennel Club. I am proud to represent each and every one of you and I thank you for your confidence and for your support. I look forward to serving you for another four years as Board member and as Delegate. We've been through difficult times and we have weathered the storm. We are stronger because of it, but it's not over and many difficulties lay ahead. Together we can beat those challenges. Together we can strengthen our clubs. Together we can make this Sport better. Together we are the Great American Kennel Club. Thank you and have a wonderful holiday season.

Mr Sprung: Thank you, Chris. The second candidate for the class of 2026 is Harold "Red" Tatro, III, representing Fort Worth Kennel Club.

Mr. Tatro: Good morning, fellow Delegates. I am Harold Tatro, Delegate of Fort Worth Kennel Club. Most of you know me by my nickname "Red", so I really would like to introduce myself to those new Delegates. Four years ago, I stood up here and asked for your support and you gave it and I am greatly honored and look forward to serving the next four years. For the new Delegates, in my private life I'm a CPA and a CFO of an Architect and Engineering firm in Arlington, Texas. My wife and I bred Lakeland Terriers and Whippets for nearly 40 years and

now we have a Chihuahua and really are having a lot of fun. I am a Conformation Judge. I judge the Hound group, the Terrier group and half of the Toys and Junior Showmanship. I enjoy doing Juniors because it's far more challenging to judge that than the breeds. I have been a past President of both of my Parent Clubs, the American Whippet Club and the United States Lakeland Terrier Club and served on those boards for decades. I have a good understanding, I think, of both the large breed club and the small breed club and there are noticeable differences. Serving on the Board of Directors I've been honored to be selected to Chair the Pension and Investment Committee, as well as Chairman of the Audit Committee. They kind of look at me as the money guy being the CPA. One of my greatest honors is I'm also the Vice Chairman for the AKC Reunite Board and that's a great organization that does so much good for the AKC as well as for dogs and pets in general across the country. I'm just here to say thank you very much and I look forward to meeting all of our new Delegates in the next four years. What I will say about this Board is it's very open-minded. We're thinking outside the box and we truly enjoy having each of you come up and talk to us. Thank you very much.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you, Red. The final candidate for the class of 2026 is Ann Wallin representing Atlanta Kennel Club.

Ms. Wallin: I hope you can hear me through my mask. Good morning. My name is Ann Wallin. I am the Delegate for the Atlanta Kennel Club since 2000, and I am so thrilled to see all of you sitting here looking back at me and I can see you. It is a true distinct pleasure to be back together again. I want to extend a very special welcome to the new Delegates that might be here today, and some might be attending their very first in-person meeting, so welcome. I want to thank the Nominating Committee for placing their confidence in me with the nomination for the Board of Directors Class of 2026. I am humbled and honored to have been able to serve on the board for the past four years and I look forward to serving for four more years. I have, as Red mentioned, have had the great pleasure of working with a wonderful, dedicated Board. We have really focused and made, I think, good decisions to keep us moving forward. I'm also on the board of AKC Reunite and I serve on the Pension and Detection Dog Task Force Committees. Our AKC world came to a screeching halt in March of 2020 with 100 percent of our All-Breed shows cancelled. By the end of 2020, approximately 79 percent of our All-Breed events and 63 percent of all other events were cancelled due to the pandemic. What an unbelievable challenge we had to face. As we forge through the next year, we had a terrific and dedicated team working together for the same purpose. Our amazing, hard-working, Staff with Dennis at the helm worked tirelessly to find creative and innovative approaches to help our Sport survive and our exhibitors to find ways to continue and compete with their beloved dogs. Our clubs found ways to hold safe events and the Delegate Body remained loyal and steadfast by doing their valuable work in the world of Zoom. The Board met remotely every month to be sure the business of AKC was taken care of. Because of our combined devotion, commitment, loyalty and because of our strength and passion for our beloved purebred dogs and our Sport, we have made an outstanding recovery. By the end of the second quarter of 2021, 99 percent of our events were equal to those in 2019 and we have continued on an upward trend. What an amazing accomplishment. I believe we have come through this hard enduring time stronger, wiser and prepared to meet any challenges in the future as well as the hard work that is ahead of us. We must continue to support our clubs to remain viable and successful and bring young people in the Sport. I am very proud and excited and energized to be part of team AKC and thank you all for being part of this journey. Now go and enjoy our fantastic 2021 National Championship.

The Executive Secretary read the names of the Delegates seated since the September 2021 Meeting.

Neil Butterklee, Ronkonkoma, NY, to represent American Chinese Crested Club
Eleanor S. Campbell, Ambler, PA, to represent Morris Hills Dog Training Club
Toni E. Doake, Norman, OK, to represent Town and Country Kennel Club
Kelly E. Lease, Woodbridge, VA, to represent Clumber Spaniel Club of America
Laura Myles, Snohomish, WA, to represent Whidbey Island Kennel Club
Kevin W. O'Connell, Commerce City, CO, to represent Terry-All Kennel Club
Tammy Porter, Westminster, CA, to represent Santa Ana Valley Kennel Club
Leah H. Schiller, New Carlisle, OH, to represent Dayton Kennel Club
Mary Lynn Speer, Glenwood City, WI, to represent Mastiff Club of America

The following Delegates, who were attending their first meeting in-person since their approval were introduced from the floor:

Stephanie Brooks to represent Fort Lauderdale Dog Club
Neil Butterklee to represent American Chinese Crested Club
Eleanor Campbell to represent Morris Hills Dog Training Club
Mary Ellen Ferguson to represent Rio Grande Kennel Club
Debbie Ferguson Jones to represent Richmond Dog Fanciers
Thea Lahti to represent Irish Terrier Club of America
Kelly Lease to represent Clumber Spaniel Club of America
Laura Myles to represent Whidbey Island Kennel Club
Kevin O'Connell to represent Terry-All Kennel Club
Tammy Porter to represent the Santa Ana Valley Kennel Club
Cecilia Resnick to represent Japanese Chin Club of America

The minutes of the September 14, 2021 Delegate Meeting were published in the online October 2021 *AKC Gazette*, and the complete transcript was posted on the Delegate Portal on AKC's website. There were no corrections and the minutes were adopted as published.

The Dogue de Bordeaux Society of America was duly elected as members of The American Kennel Club.

Dr. Thomas Davies delivered the Chairman's Report as follows:

Welcome back to Orlando. The Board and the Staff are thrilled to have us all together in person again. We appreciate, as always, everyone's commitment to keeping our gathering safe and productive so that we can celebrate the beauty and function of our dogs and experience the excitement of our Sports.

There was a movie back in 1989 called *Field of Dreams*. In it, the main character hears a voice coming from a cornfield that says, "If you build it, they will come." In our cornfield back in 2001, a voice said the same thing... of course our voice was heard by Ron Menaker. Ron is a genius who shoots at something that no one else can see and hits it. Well, he built it and,

indeed, we came. This weekend we will be celebrating the 21st Anniversary of our AKC National Championship with over 5000 entries and events in many areas of our sports. From J.R. in 2001 to Bourbon in 2020, from Orlando to Tampa to Long Beach and back to Orlando, we will get to watch this year's AKC National Championship winner crowned in dogdom's greatest event.

A cornerstone of our public education message is that purebred dogs don't just "look the part," but that they also "act the part" too. In a few short weeks on January 2nd this weekend's winners will be showcased on ABC television and AKC.tv. It is our goal to show the public why our purebred dogs look the way they do and the role in our lives that they are meant to play. We have heard the expression, "I am not a doctor, I just play one on TV." When it comes to purpose bred and working dogs, to paraphrase that saying, they don't just play one on TV. Our standards delineate purpose – whether working in the field, pasture, at our side or anywhere else, purebred dogs have always had a job to do. With that guiding principle in mind, this year The American Kennel Club ramped up efforts to build alliances and leadership in the area of dogs in direct service to mankind. This includes working K9s in police departments and governmental agencies throughout our great nation.

Thanks to the vision of the AKC Board, and specifically that of Chris Sweetwood, we announced our official association with the United States Police Canine Association. You may remember the incredible demonstrations at the Javits Center Meet the Breeds event by the USPCA and the NYPD K9 Unit members in 2019. Soon after, AKC Reunite, through the AKC/CAR Support and Relief Fund, established the AKC Adopt a K9 Cop Program. This program brings together AKC Clubs, AKC Reunite and other donors to raise money for police departments to purchase working dogs. To date there have been 70 grants awarded. This program is ongoing and is an important way for communities to participate in building and preserving the human/canine bond.

To bring the heroic work of police canines and their handlers into the spotlight, AKC and the USPCA created the AKC/USPCA K9 Detection Dog Challenge, which premiered on ESPN2 less than three weeks ago. The intricate work of narcotics and explosive detection was on display at the PNC arena in Raleigh, with twenty handlers and their dogs from around the country competing. Top honors went to a straight flush of women handlers representing agencies from Raleigh, New York City and other locations. This outcome recalls something John Lennon once said, which I'll paraphrase, "As usual there is a great woman behind every great dog."

A key purpose of this program, with its significant AKC branding and the authenticity of its competition was to engage the public and instill in viewers' minds that the AKC is always at the center of all content about dogs. Recall, also that the Awards for Canine Excellence, known as the ACE Awards, celebrate uniformed service dogs among the other categories that improve our lives in extraordinary ways. The ACE Awards, which are underwritten by the AKC Humane Fund, were the subject of another ESPN2 program which aired a couple of weeks ago.

AKC has long provided registration services for active police dogs, and we are now indicating them in our database with a "Public Service" flag and recording information about their current

handlers and the public agencies that own the dogs. This is laying the groundwork for future services for these dogs, including potential recognition of titles and awards. Also on the horizon is leadership in the area of service dogs that are individually trained to perform tasks for people living with disabilities.

Of course, TV coverage for AKC and more titles are not the only reason why we are becoming active in the area of public service dogs. Working canines relate directly to AKC's mission.

You all know well that AKC is committed to breeding for type and for function. The specialized function and skills of certain working dogs are growing more important precisely at a time when these dogs are becoming scarce.

National security is one of our country's top priorities, and yet the US is facing a shortage of explosive detection dogs. Today, the US government and security agencies obtain about 85% of their dogs from overseas breeders. To address and help resolve this issue, the AKC Board of Directors has established the Detection Dog Task Force – a core group consisting of AKC Board and Staff members, including Carmen Battaglia, Chris Sweetwood, Doug Ljungren and Sheila Goffe, with the goal to leverage AKC's expertise to increase the availability of US bred and trained explosive detection dogs who will protect our nation from terrorist threats and other dangers to society.

The Government Relations department is working with agencies to encourage the procurement of home-bred dogs. Breeder Education is working on a program known as Patriotic Puppy, which incentivizes US breeders to produce high quality puppies for future detection work.

Exciting outcomes so far include two US Customs contracts calling for American-bred dogs, three annual detection dog conferences, and a growing roster of Patriotic Puppy breeders from 23 states. The Adopt a K9 Cop campaign, the US Detection Dog Task Force and the Patriotic Puppy Program are prime examples of the things we can do as Americans and as AKC breeders to help keep our communities and our country safe.

It's this time of the year that we reflect and take stock of the past, present and future. It comes down to this: Safety, good health and the ability to enjoy our purebred dogs in friendship and in peace are among the things that matter most. Maya Angelou said, "We need much less than we think we need." All we really need is our dog community, our clubs and each other. As we head into the holiday season and the end of our year of competition, all of us at AKC hope that you remain safe, healthy and surrounded by friends, family and all the dogs that are part of your lives. Enjoy every bit of the weekend ahead.

I will leave you with a quote from writer Louis Sabin. "No matter how little money you have, nor how few possessions, having a dog will make you rich." Happy holidays.

Mr. Sprung delivered the President's Report as follows:

I'll share with the Delegates what I told Tom last evening. I spoke with Ron Menaker, our Chairman Emeritus on Tuesday and he wished us well for our 21st National Championship.

Some thoughts to share: Proudly, the number of unique breeders has increased seven years in a row; however, there certainly are not enough as the demand for purebred dogs isn't being met even with hundreds of thousands of active breeders.

We urge you to continue breeding as you are important influencers of the sport with significant knowledge. This can lead to numerous new opportunities:

- It will open doors to mentor co-owners who eventually can take care of your stock.
- There are additional avenues to share more of your experience as a breeder, allowing for others and yourself to collaboratively continue your breeding program.
- Of course, related to this is the "preservation bank" which the Board endorsed – another way to become involved in enhancing breeds and leveraging the best of many breeding programs, particularly those with a smaller gene pool, but an important step for every unique breed.

Another area of enhancement that the Board and Staff has collaborated on is the expansion of opportunities for Juniors, the ongoing work of Government Relations to protect your rights as responsible breeders and owners, and numerous offerings from our Education Department which Ashley Jacot will present in June 2022.

Our pledge to you, club members and puppy buyers is to remain customer centric, delivering outstanding experiences, being helpful, honest and transparent in offering services and products that are easily understandable. Our brand is doing well as is the entire AKC universe.

As you do, we continue to promote AKC's Code of Sportsmanship and, beyond that, treatment of one another with dignity.

Lastly, it is important that we welcome new exhibitors to our world, being kind and patient while embracing diversity. We are 137 years old and stronger than ever. Your contributions have been an important part of that achievement, and I thank you for those years of expertise.

Congratulations to the Delegate Body for your contributions.

Chief Financial Officer, Ted Phillips, gave the Financial Report as follows:

Good morning to all Delegates. Today I am here to present some key performance indicators and financial results for the nine months ended September 30, 2021. These data points are essential to tell the story of the AKC operating results. This chart provides a comparison of litter and dog registrations for the nine months ended September 30, 2021. Litter registrations totaled 245,000 which is 17 percent higher than the same period in 2020. These results continue the double-digit trend of growth we reported earlier in 2021. Dog registrations are recorded in the dark blue columns and for this period dog registrations totaled 619,718 which was also 17 percent higher than the same period in 2020. Please note that litter and dog registrations represent 45 percent of the total revenue for the nine months ending September 30, 2021. We'd like to thank our breeders and the entire Delegate Body, our Board of Directors and AKC Staff for these outstanding achievements. Turning to Sports & Events, we have seen a significant increase in the total events and entries in 2021. As you all know, these numbers are returning back to 2019 levels. The dark blue column presented shows the climb – the dark blue column presented shows the number of events totaling 15,778. The line across the two

columns shows the entries that climbed to 2.3 million which is an 89 percent increase over the same period in 2020. Again, we are very pleased at the numbers returning and we thank you for your support.

Next, we'll look at the financial operating results for the nine months ended September 30th. Operating revenues of 78 million dollars generated net income of 24.9 million. Revenues are principally generated by registration and event fees. As of September 30, 2021, these numbers totaled 28 percent higher than the same period in 2020. Registration and event fees totaled 56.3 million and two significant groups are in this number. Litter and dog registrations totaled 45 million dollars and event fees totaled 11 million dollars. Please note that's 84 percent ahead of 2020. Finally, on revenue advertising, sponsorship and royalties total 11.9 million, 51 percent ahead of the same period in 2020, so overall these are excellent results for AKC.

Turning to operating expenses, they totaled 44 million dollars for these nine months, which is seven percent higher than 2020. Management follows a very tight cost control methodology across all categories and has kept expenses under control. Staff costs comprise the largest component at 24.4 million, which is 4.5 percent higher than 2020. Please note that all budgeted programs and activities have available funds in this year. Our government relations staff, as you've heard, continues to promote the mission of AKC. Also, annual donations from AKC to charitable organizations average five percent of operating expenses and are consistent with prior years.

Finally, my favorite slide. This is the financial position as of September 30, 2021. Total assets are 172 million dollars. Investments and cash comprise the largest piece of the total assets and that amount totals 135 million dollars. The AKC investment portfolio is professionally managed for growth and is reported year to date investment returns of 9.7 percent which beat their benchmark on September 30, 2021. The overall financial condition of AKC continues to be healthy due to our positive mission-related activities, support from the Board of Directors, and our Delegates. We thank you for your time today and we appreciate your dedication. I'm available to answer any questions during the meeting and my contact information is always here for you. Thank you.

The first vote was on the amendment to **Article VII, New Section 3** of the Charter and Bylaws of The American Kennel Club, which moves the statement concerning the Board Elections from Article VIII, which discusses the Nominating Committee to Article VII which addresses the election of the Board members. This amendment was proposed by the Delegate Bylaws Committee and brought forward with approval from the AKC Board of Directors.

There was a two-thirds vote in the affirmative, and the amendment was adopted.

The next vote was on the amendment to **Article VII, Section 9** of the Charter and Bylaws of The American Kennel Club, which removes language that is superfluous and not necessary to understand the specific powers entrusted to the Board. The amendment to Article VII, Section 5, 6 and New Section 7 was approved at the September 2021 Delegate Meeting, so this

section was renumbered. When read in September 2021 this was Article VII, Section 8. This amendment was proposed by the Delegate Bylaws Committee and brought forward with approval from the AKC Board of Directors.

There was a two-thirds vote in the affirmative, and the amendment was adopted.

The third vote was on the amendment to **Article X, Section 7** of the Charter and Bylaws of The American Kennel Club which removes language that is superfluous and not necessary to understand the specific power entrusted to the board. This amendment was proposed by the Delegate Bylaws Committee and brought forward with AKC Board approval.

There was a two-thirds vote in the affirmative, and the amendment was adopted.

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

There was a two-thirds vote in the affirmative, and the amendment was adopted.

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

There was a two-thirds vote in the affirmative, and the amendment was adopted.

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

There was a two-thirds vote in the affirmative, and the amendment was adopted.

Mr. Sprung asked without objection that Dr. Darin Collins, the new CEO of the AKC CHF and Kristie Klein of the Australian Shepherd Health and Genetics Institute join the meeting.
[No objection]

Dr. Charles Garvin of the AKC Board of Directors and Dr. Darin Collins presented awards on behalf of AKC CHF and provided an update of recent developments.

Dr. Charles Garvin, spoke as follows:

Thank you, Dennis. Good morning. I'm Charlie Garvin, Delegate for the Dalmatian Club of America and Chairman of the Board of the AKC K9 Health Foundation which of course we call CHF. Over the next few minutes, I'd like to give you an update on CHF and highlight some of the important achievements of the past year. In 2021 CHF invested more than 3.4 million dollars in 50 canine health research and educational grants. Of those 42 of the grants, 13 were for cancer research totaling \$1.3 million. And once again, CHF earned the four-star rating from Charity Navigator and the Platinum Seal of Transparency from Guide Star. These are the highest possible ratings awarded by both of these watch dog organizations. Basically, it's the best in show and high in trial for nonprofit organizations. We're quite proud to continue that tradition. CHF has continued its support of future scientists by awarding three new clinician scientist fellowships and two new theriogenology residencies in 2021. And CHF continues support of the One Health model which is based on the concept that humans, animals, and the environment are all interconnected. It links human and canine researchers so that significant concerns in discoveries in dogs and dog health may impact human health and vice versa. For example, canine research in cancer and epilepsy may help you as well as the human research in this area may help your dog. And in 2021 some 40 percent of our new grant funding supported studies with One Health significance.

2021 was another banner year for CHF-funded investigators. Through your support of CHF, investigators made significant discoveries in the understanding and cause of histiocytic sarcoma and also identified the genetic mutation that causes dwarfism in the Great Pyrenees. CHF-funded investigators also provided important clues for investigation into diet-related dilated cardiomyopathy and advanced our knowledge of the genetic influences of hip dysplasia. But then the other important step forward that CHF made this past year was adding to our executive staff. We welcomed two important people to CHF whose leadership will guide us for many years to come. First, please welcome Dr. Darin Collins, CHF's new chief executive officer. Dr. Collins earned his veterinary degree from University of Illinois and spent over 30 years at the Woodland Park Zoo in Seattle, Washington. He's been a clinical veterinarian and Director of Animal Health Programs. And you may recognize him, he has been involved in the dog show world for several decades. Along with Dr. Collins we welcome Dr. Jennifer MacLeay as CHF's new Chief Scientific Officer. Dr. MacLeay received her DVM from The Ohio State University and her Ph.D. at the University of Minnesota. Both at the University of Minnesota and Colorado State, Dr. MacLeay taught in their veterinary teaching hospitals and vet schools. She conducted extensive research and most recently she's been the Medical Director at Hills Pet Nutrition. At this time Dr. Collins will help me present CHF's 2021 awards.

Dr. Collins, spoke as follows:

Thank you, Charlie. Dennis Sprung, members of the AKC Board and Delegates, it's an honor to be here. Thank you for the invitation and thank you for the opportunity to present you with our Canine Health Foundation awards and introduce myself on behalf of the Canine Health Foundation staff that serve you. You are Parent Club members and our Delegates, our constituency. We can't do our work without you and it's our honor to award our 2021 awards to significant contributions to Canine Health Foundation. First award goes to the Australian

Shepherd Health and Genetics Institute as our 2021 distinguished research partner and we can't do our work, as I said, without our partners. This group, the Australian Shepherd Health and Genetics Group, is a longstanding gold standard partner club who works with K9 Canine Health Foundation to bring funds to K9 Health Foundation so that we can work together on awarding research grants that benefit not just this breed but other breeds as well. And we recognize their President Mr. C.A. Sharp who could not be here and Kristie Klein who is here to accept the award on behalf of the Australian Shepherd Health and Genetics Institute. Please come forward. Next, we would also like to acknowledge our longstanding partner *Retriever News* and Entry Express who created a very novel approach to donations to Canine Health Foundation, innovated an exhibitor participation by adding a donation to their entries that has created longstanding generous fund so we can work together on health topics that involve sporting dogs. They are not here to receive their award, but we acknowledge their contribution and want to give them a longstanding award.

Dr. Charles Garvin, spoke as follows:

The President's Award is given to a person or organization that has made exceptional contribution to advancing canine health. It is selected by the Chairman of the AKC Canine Health Foundation Board of Directors. The 2021 President's Award is presented to a true power couple who devoted more than 50 years to dogs, from showing prize-winning Afghan Hounds to serving as officers for many clubs, they are dedicated to advancing the health and well-being of dogs. He is currently on the CHF Board of Directors and served as Chairman of the Board from 2013 to 2015. He's also a member of CHF's Scientific Review Committee and was past chair of that important committee. Now, she is past President of the Afghan Hound Club of America, the Afghan Hound Club of Northern New Jersey and the Central New Jersey Hound Association. In addition, she is a current member of Kennel Club of Philadelphia, Morris & Essex Kennel Club, Tuxedo Park Kennel Club and Delaware Water Gap Kennel Club and she's the true force behind their joint efforts. I have the great pleasure to present the 2021 President's Award to Duane and Connie Butherus.

And as we look forward to the coming year, I would like to thank all of you for your support of CHF and especially like to thank the American Kennel Club for their support over the past 25 years. AKC has contributed over 30 million dollars to CHF and in 2022 will increase their financial contribution to CHF by one million dollars. We are very grateful for their investment in improving the health of the dogs that we love. Once again, thank you very much.

Gail LaBerge, Delegate from the Atlanta Obedience Club and Chris Sweetwood of the AKC Board of Directors presented an update on PAC initiatives and activities.

Ms. LaBerge spoke as follows: Good morning. We're going to do something that we hope will show you how your donations to the AKC PAC actually affects you and your community. We have a short new video that we would like to share with you and then Chris will give you some information, but quickly I'd like to remind you that it's not just for Delegates to donate to our wonderful sweepstakes we have going. If you have friends across the way, please make sure that they come by Sheila Goffe's AKC Government Relations booth and pick up their tickets. We will be doing the drawing, or Sheila will, Monday in Raleigh.
[Video played.]

Mr. Sweetwood spoke as follows: I think that video kind of says it all, but to try and make things a little easier because we're always up here, you know, reaching for your wallet, what

we're doing this year is we have raffle tickets and some of the prizes – excuse me, sweepstakes. If you're not interested in all of this good stuff, we'll just take your money and we'd really appreciate it. What we have – what's available is an Impact Dog Crate®. It will be special ordered for you based upon your breed size. Other prizes include goody bags, a *ShowSight* magazine full-page color ad, Westminster tickets for January 2022, two-night hotel and tickets for next year's AKC National Championship in Orlando, and a full-page color ad in *Retriever News*. And if you'll see us at the table outside this meeting or if you're at the show, stop by the booth. We really, really need your help. It helps us get ahead of the election cycle. And again, it's a never-ending battle that we can't win without your support and your club support. Thank you so much.

Doug Ljungren, Executive Vice President of Sports & Events introduced a new video on AKC Juniors Organization:

Mari-Beth O'Neill would normally introduce this topic, but she's busy as the Chair across the street at a 1,300-plus dog Puppy Stake event. So, it's my privilege to introduce a video that is intended to welcome Juniors to AKC by demonstrating the many events that are available for them and at which they may meet Junior handlers. This is one of the many great ideas that came out of the Delegate Juniors Subcommittee. It is meant to be educational, and all clubs can use it. It is currently located on the AKC website. If you click on Sports & Events and then Junior resources and scroll down to the introduction video section, you'll find this video. Should you have any questions or need assistance about locating and using the video, please email Juniors@AKC.org. Thank you.

[Video played.]

The Chair informed the Delegates that the Annual Meeting would be held on Tuesday, March 8, 2022 at the Doubletree Newark Airport in Newark, New Jersey. The March meeting is the annual election for the Class of 2026. More detailed meeting information will be emailed when available.

Lunch will be served next door in the Grand Ballroom C. Delegates are reminded to please leave your badges at the registration desk following lunch.

Hearing no new business, the Chair adjourned the meeting.

(One sharp rap of the gavel.)

(Proceedings concluded at 11:16 a.m. ET.)

The opinions expressed by the speakers may not necessarily reflect those of The American Kennel Club.